

Photo courtesy University of Chicago

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT JOHN WILSON

"I have no qualms about the Laboratory Schools' survival."

# A visit with the president

Conversation on the Lab Schools, University and community

By David Gottlieb

John T. Wilson sat behind his desk in his fifth floor office in the University Administration Building at 58th St. and Ellis Ave. Behind him two large windows framed the eastern portion of the University campus. On the west wall of his office stood a massive array of books. Near the north wall of the office sat D.J.R. Bruckner, vice president for public affairs and a former columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

Seated behind his huge desk, Mr. Wilson greeted his visitor calmly and courteously. A firm-jawed, silver-haired man in his early '60s, he became acting University president last February, and became fulltime president in December.

He is presiding over a University surrounded by ghetto areas with high crime rates, a University playing a major but possibly changing role in its own community, and a University which is responsible for the Laboratory Schools.

"I have no qualms about the Laboratory Schools' survival," he said. "I think they're going to survive and I think they're going to prosper along with the

University." He added that the University provides the "logistic support for the Lab Schools" and that "the remainder of the budget is a function of the tuition generation."

Mr. Wilson firmly denied that surplus salary and tuition money from the Schools is returned to the University, as some people have said. "As for any monies which are generated by the Laboratory Schools being creamed off, as it were, for other parts of the University, that is absolutely untrue, because if there is a carryover at the end of the fiscal year, that remains in the Laboratory Schools, and is carried over into the next year's budget."

Mr. Wilson said the relationship of the University with the ghetto areas surrounding it is that of a "good neighbor. And it would be very arrogant of the University to try to determine the future of any one of those communities."

He spoke uncertainly of how the University's role in the immediate community is changing. "I'm sure things are changing, they're always in a state of flux, but the attitude of positive support of the University towards the community I hope hasn't changed at all."

## the Midway

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## Coming Arts Week events include plays, concerts

By Robert Needlman

Performances by Student Experimental Theatre (SET), a recital by Pianist Vladimir Leyetchkiss, and a concert of vocal and instrumental music by almost 350 Middle and High Schoolers will highlight the remaining three days of Arts Week.

The weeklong festival, started in 1967 by student government, "makes students and teachers aware of all the creativity in the school," said Katie Kalven, one of seven students on the Arts Week Committee.

Each class has been meeting only twice this week, so students can attend programs.

Among other remaining programs, Margaret

Burroughs, curator of the DuSable Museum, will explain African Art and Black Student Association members will model modern fashions. Both programs will take place Thursday.

Complete activity schedules are posted near the library.

SET's program, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday in Belfield Theater, includes an act from Neil Simon's "Plaza Suite," Lawrence Langer's one-act play "Another Way Out," two original dances and a sound and light show.

In the excerpt from "Plaza Suite," according to Director Bernadette Williams, "A Hollywood producer tries to seduce his high school sweetheart."

In "Another Way Out," according to Director Becky

Brisben, "a bizarre couple tries to escape society's restrictions by living together."

Actors include Andy Getz, Erica Zolberg, Maria Hinojosa, Marjorie Hillocks, Andy Neal, Leyli Moayyad and Keith Haggard.

Dancing to Beethoven's "Pathetique," Gwen and Suzanne Harrison will portray James Thurber's "The Last Flower." In the other dance, Choreographer Marcy Street, Elise Ricks, Tracye Travis and Caroline Epps will move to a jazz motif.

Mike Trosman designed the sound and light show.

Tickets for the performances cost \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

Musicians from most Middle and High School ensembles will unite in a "Festival of American Music" concert 11 a.m.-noon Friday in Sunny Gym.

Although no program sponsored by the James Landau Fund is scheduled for Arts Week, unlike past years, one is planned for April.



Photo by Andy Meyer

SET PERFORMERS Marcy Street, left, Elise Ricks, Carolyn Epps and Tracye Travis finish their fast moving and energetic dance. Ronnie Law's jazz tune, "Always There," supplies the background music.

"There were enough programs during Arts Week," Student Activities Coordinator Ursula Roberts, a member of the Landau Committee, explained.

In addition to performances and workshops scheduled for the week, paintings, sculptures, photos and other exhibits by about 220 students line the halls of U-High.

Student participation in Arts Week has increased this year, according to Unified Arts Department Chairperson Robert Erickson, Arts Week coordinator.

"Students have been more active in the planning; they sparked each other's enthusiasm," he said.

Awards for work displayed during the week will be presented in an assembly 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursday in Sunny Gym.

Mr. Leyetchkiss and the Joel Hall dance troupe will perform at the assembly.

Judges include Lower School Art Teacher Joan Koblick; Painters Myoko Ito and Madeline M. Raber; and Graphic Artist John Hummelfarb.



Photo by Andy Meyer

PROMINENT AMERICAN AUTHOR Pomeroy Pendleton (Andy Neal) asks for a kiss from Sculptress Margaret Marshall (Maria Hinojosa) in SET's production of Lawrence Langer's "Another Way Out."

### Going abroad

## Erickson's museum pieces

By Kimberly Davis

An art collection belonging to Unified Arts Department Chairperson Robert Erickson will be included in the Bauhaus Archives, a museum planned to open in two years in West Berlin.

"The Bauhaus Archives," according to Mr. Erickson, "will house the historical data and art of the original Bauhaus Art School, from Berlin and other German cities, and the Chicago School of Design, which was the Bauhaus' closest counterpart."

The original Bauhaus, founded in 1919, was closed in 1933 when the Nazi party labeled it decadent. The Chicago School was founded by a former Bauhaus teacher, Moholy Nagy.

Mr. Erickson studied and taught at the Chicago School from 1943 to 1946. His personal documents, art work and his book "A Child Sees," written in 1946 and based on his teaching experiences at the Chicago School of Design, will be displayed in a wing devoted to the Chicago School.

Mr. Erickson said that he is "one of the few people left in this part of the country who was once affiliated with the Chicago School. They want to preserve what little is left of these two schools."

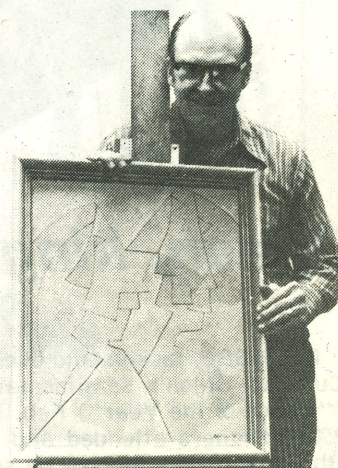


Photo by Jim Reginato

ROBERT ERICKSON describes one of the paintings he will contribute to the Bauhaus Archives.



# Debaters off to slow start

By Aaron Stern

Lack of experience accounts for the debate team's slow start in tournament competition this year, according to Social Studies Teacher Earl Bell, debate coach.

Of nine tournaments in which it has competed, U-High has won one tournament at the novice (first year) level and six individual speaker awards. The team has not placed into the varsity level playoffs which decide a tournament winner.

The team has rapidly improved since the beginning of the year, Mr. Bell said, by intensively researching this year's national debate topic, "Resolved: That the development and allocation of scarce world resources should be controlled by an international organization." The team has also run numerous practice debates to improve speaking and analytical skills, according to Mr. Bell.

He feels that U-High's prospects for winning the state novice championship at the University of Illinois at Champaign, Friday and Saturday, are "excellent" but he is unsure how U-High will do in the Illinois High School Association sectional.

Summing up the season, team member Dan Lashof said, "It's hard for a first-year team to perform like a fourth-year team."



## Pie-eaters paradise

**MOUTHS STUFFED** with cherry pie and faces covered with it, contests (photos clockwise from top) Rachel Aliber, Sam Zellner, John Simpson and Michael Dikovics race to win Cultural Union's George Washington Pie Eating Contest, Feb. 24. John, Michael and Scott took the top three places, winning respectively \$5, \$2.50 and \$1. Michael took 2nd place despite the misfortune of, er, losing part of his pie during the finals.

by Paul Sagan

## Quickies

### Contest entrant

Selected by junior English teachers, Julie Getzels will represent U-High in the National Council of Teachers of English Contest this year. Students participating in the contest submit two samples of their writing, one a timed essay on a preselected topic and the other on a topic of their own choice.

### Vocalists to compete

Twenty U-Highers selected by Music Teachers Richard Walsh and Diane McCullough will compete in the Illinois High School Association's vocal competition Saturday in South Holland. They are as follows:

Sonja Blumenberg, Katie Browning, Jane Garber, Gwen Harrison, Suzanne Harrison, Mary Hill, Marjorie Hillocks, Judy Holloway, Mary Johnston, Cathy Jones, Rachel Kligerman, Leyli Moayyad, Mie Najita, Susan Power, Leah Taylor, Lisa Waitches, Lesley Williams, Sharon Wilson, Julia Yang and Sharon Zerlin.

### Parents gift school

Two cassette tape recorders, six cassette players and 75 blank tapes were given to U-High by the Parents' Association last month. The recorders are available for use by faculty members from the principal's office, and the players for use by faculty and students from the library. The tapes were distributed to school departments.

### French contest here

Testing for a nationwide French contest sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French will take place at U-High Sat., Mar. 13. The school will serve as the South Side testing center in Chicago. The test, which several U-Highers will take, includes oral and written parts.

### In The Wind

**TODAY-SAT., MAR. 6**-Arts Week continues.  
**WED., MAR. 3**-Girls' basketball, Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., here.

**THURS., MAR. 4-SAT., MAR. 6**-Student Experimental Theatre production, Belfield Theatre.

**THURS., MAR. 4**-Track, Lake View, 4 p.m., University Fieldhouse, 56th St. and University Ave.

**FRI., MAR. 5**-Girls' basketball, Lake Forest Academy, 4 p.m., here.

**SAT., MAR. 6**-Girls' basketball, North Shore, 10:30 a.m., there.

**TUES., MAR. 9**-Girls' basketball, Latin, 4 p.m., here.

**THURS., MAR. 11**-Girls' basketball, Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., there; Parents' Association-sponsored lecture, "Virtues of Narcissism: A Childhood Paradox," by Joseph Palumbo, administrative director of child therapy program at Institute for Psychoanalysis, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room.

**FRI., MAR. 12**-Girls' basketball, Harvard-St. George, 4 p.m., here; Track, Kennedy, 4 p.m., Fieldhouse; Feature film, "Bye Bye Birdie," 7:30 p.m., Judd 126.

**TUES., MAR. 16**-Girls' basketball, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., there.

**THURS., MAR. 18**-Gymnastics show, time to be announced, Upper Sunny Gym.

**FRI., MAR. 19**-Third Annual U-High Indoor Invitational Track Meet, 4 p.m., University Fieldhouse.

**SAT., MAR. 20-SUN., MAR. 28**-Spring recess.

**MON., MAR. 29**-School reopens. Oh, well, last week was a good one, anyway.

**TUES., MAR. 30**-Midway out.

## Report questions Middle School role

By Dave Gottlieb, political editor

Questions concerning the existence of the Middle School are among the topics discussed by the Administrative Structure Committee in its concluding report submitted to Lab Schools Director Nel Noddings last month.

Ms. Noddings formed the faculty-and-parent committee in September to evaluate the Schools' present administrative structure and suggest improvements.

In its report, the committee questioned "the validity and necessity of a Middle School structure." The committee recommended a study of "practical problems of physical space, allocation of a separate and discrete faculty, and various school divisions, such as dropping 6th grade or a 7-8-9 division."

The committee also recommended improvements in curriculum and policy coordination, orientation of new faculty, and faculty and administration recruitment in the schools.

Ms. Noddings has met with the PreCollegiate Board and

submitted a copy of the report. She will now make a list of her own suggestions to present to the Board in April.

Because of the committee's questioning of the Middle School's existence, Principal David Cunningham has formed a faculty committee to write a position paper supporting the continuation of the Middle Schools.

Ms. Noddings invited teachers to a "general session" to discuss "problems, commitments, fears and hopes" concerning the Middle School.

With the Administrative Structure report in, Ms. Noddings has formed a principal search committee for the high school, where Geoff Jones has a one-year contract. Mr. Jones said he will be a candidate.

Ms. Noddings herself plans to leave the Lab Schools in June, after a year here.

## Evaluations to begin

Student evaluations of teachers will begin the end of this quarter, according to Dan Lashof, member of the student committee planning them.

Students will fill out multiple choice forms on teachers who have volunteered to participate in the program.

Each teacher will see results from his or her classes. Administrators and students will see results with teachers' names removed.

Another evaluation, and an evaluation of the project itself, will take place in spring quarter.

The project was planned with administrative and teacher consultation. It is being financed with a \$280 grant from the Student Legislative Coordinating Council.

The planning committee earlier estimated the cost of the project at \$1,000 or higher but was able to cut the cost sharply.

## Big Apple bound

### BSA plans trip

An upcoming trip to New York City is among Black Student Association (BSA) plans for the year.

Other BSA activities this year include a play and an upcoming issue of Onyx, the BSA literary magazine.

BSA also is involved in Arts Week.

About three dozen BSA members have signed up to go to New York City Mar. 22-

26, during spring vacation, according to Guidance Counselor Jewel Willis, BSA adviser. Five teachers probably will chaperon them.

Their plans include seeing three plays, touring Manhattan and Harlem, and visiting the United Nations and a black museum.

Next quarter BSA plans to present a play, preceded the same evening by a soul food dinner.

The first issue of Onyx will be published in April, according to Editor Chris Scott.

During Arts Week, BSA is sponsoring the performance of a dance troupe and two photo exhibits, among other programs.

### Contest will pit bridges

Can U-Highers build better bridges? The Physics Club is sponsoring a contest to find out, according to Science Teacher Paul Collard, its adviser. The contest is a preliminary to citywide competition at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in late April. Entrants must limit the size of their bridges and use of the two permitted materials, balsa wood and glue. The structure which holds up the most weight wins and is eligible to compete at IIT.



Photo by Michael Orlikoff

## Queen, king of hearts

DRESSES, jackets and even some ties made appearances at Cultural Union's semiformal dance, "La Serata del Anno" ("Dance of the Year") Feb. 13 at the Quadrangle Club. About 250 U-Highers attended and saw Seniors Regina Arthur and Philip Guttman, elected by school vote from candidates from the three other classes, crowned queen and king. They received a bouquet of flowers, a crown and a cane, collectively. A live band and disk jockey provided music for dancers.

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# Hand in ... and wait and wait and wait and wa

By Mona Sadow

"I hear you got your papers back," one U-Higher says. "Yeah, finally! But I can't remember what I was trying to say in the first place!" another replies.

According to Guidance Department Chairperson Karen Robb, parents and students have been complaining to her about the long time some teachers take to return assignments.

According to a Midway survey of school departments, only German teachers have formulated a set policy to determine how long teachers should take to return assignments. The policy, according to Foreign Language Department Chairperson Gregor Heggen, is to return tests and homework the day after students hand them in. "Day to day progression can only be achieved if students know

what they did wrong," he said.

Other department chairpersons gave varying reasons for the lack of similar policies in their areas.

Chairperson Alan Haskell said the Math Department has no policy because "The belief is that teachers will do what's best for students, and it couldn't be enforced."

Other department chairpersons said that because different situations arise and teachers have varied ways of dealing with assignments, having a set policy that accounts for the differences is difficult.

English Department Chairperson Darlene McCampbell pointed out that often "The slower teachers are thorough in their written comments. Others spend more time in conferences."

Many teachers pointed out that to be thorough they need a lot of time. They said the heavier class load instituted last year makes it harder. Science Department Chairperson Ernest Poll said, "It's easy to say a teacher should get things back quickly, but it's impossible if a teacher is to do a good job." Social Studies Department Chairperson Joel Sural said that he "can't do too many papers a day because my marking abilities start to diminish."

Students surveyed by the Midway indicated that only in foreign language classes are homework and tests consistently returned promptly. "It's a frustration for students," Ms. Robb said. In agreement, Junior Paula Noble said, "It really bugs me because I don't remember what I was writing about and I can't progress."

## Two courses offered

### Driver's ed proves big draw

By Steve Sonnenfeld

An estimated 75 U-Highers will take advantage this year of a free drivers' education course sponsored by the Chicago Board of Education.

#### Actors, trial illustrate book

Actors and a mock trial helped English Teacher Carol Moseley's two freshman classes study "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck. Drama students Hal Bernstein and Stephen Patterson acted scenes from the book. Then, to answer a question left unsolved in the story, students staged a mock trial. Ms. Moseley thinks both projects helped students to understand the book.

#### Start next year

### Workshops to help students plan classes

By Rachel Aliber

A series of required sessions for all U-Highers intended to help them make informed decisions about class schedules, activities and college, will be initiated next year, according to a letter to department chairpersons from the Guidance Department.

As U-High's scheduling procedure now stands, students are responsible for talking to their counselors between the time they receive course booklets and signing up for classes.

Some students surveyed by the Midway said they never talked with their counselors during this time. Others, who said they have consulted counselors, expressed discontent with the help they received.

The most common complaint was that students' interests are ignored and high school and college requirements are emphasized.

Guidance Department Chairperson Karen Robb explained that these requirements are emphasized because students should sample different subject areas in high school.

Ms. Robb added that, because some classes meet only during one period, sometimes students must set

Twelve other U-Highers paying \$90 each will take a driver's ed course taught by Phys Ed Teacher Sandy Patlak. His course basically is intended for team members who can't take the other because it coincides with players' practices.

The free course, taught by Douglas Cook, a teacher from South Shore High, meets Monday, Wednesday and Thursday after school. It involves 30 hours of classroom work on driver safety and law.

After that, students go to Chicago Vocational High School for eight hours of driving practice on a simulated street course and four hours in street traffic.

Then students take a test for their driver's license.

The entire course takes four to five months to complete. "It is a great asset to

students because it makes them good drivers and lowers insurance rates," Mr. Cook said. He added that the course taught here is the same taught in public schools except there driver's ed is required in the sophomore year as part of the phys ed curriculum.

Mr. Patlak's course meets every morning before school. It basically involves the same procedures as Mr. Cook's except, Mr. Patlak said, "we zip through the traffic laws and go right into the driving practice which we do right here at school."

### Teachers knock new contract

By David Gottlieb, political editor

Dissatisfaction with the newly-negotiated teacher contract has been expressed by both Union and nonUnion faculty members interviewed by the Midway. The faculty ratified the contract, previously agreed on by Union and University negotiators, 89-28 in voting Feb. 4-5. Many teachers who voted for the contract said they did so, even though they were unhappy with it, because they wanted a contract.

Social Studies Teacher Earl Bell, a negotiator for the faculty, said he felt the 5 per cent salary increase in the contract was "not an equitable increase because the Union calculated, using tuition increases and budget

figures, that the University had between \$300,000 and \$900,000 surplus in their tuition and salary budget." Mr. Bell added that University negotiators never denied these figures.

Librarian Mary Biblo, who quit the Union last year, said, "The fact that this contract is the only American Federation of Teachers contract without a general antidiscrimination clause is more telling than anything else I can say about the Union."

Foreign Language Department Chairperson Gregor Heggen said he "would have liked a bigger pay increase." He added that he felt the faculty could be "better represented" in negotiations by a group of elected faculty rather than Union-chosen negotiators.

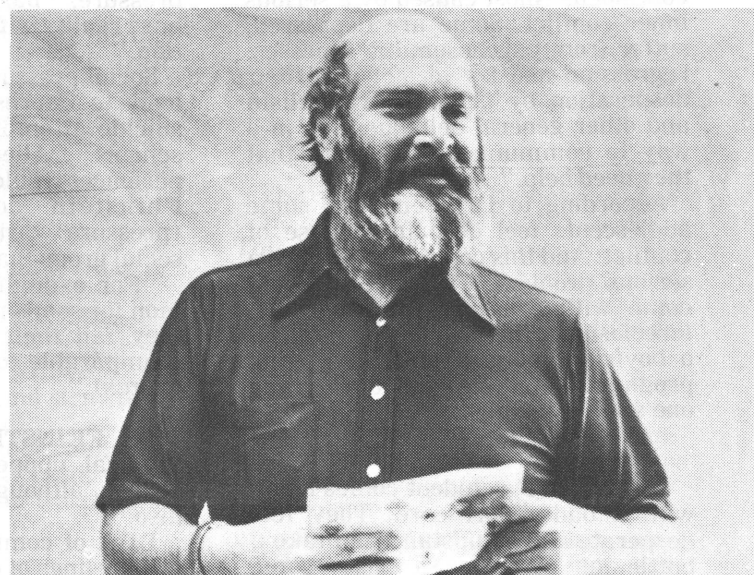


Photo by Lynn David

DRIVERS' EDUCATION Instructor Douglas Cook explains to his class a traffic law in the instructional book "Rules of the Road."

priorities as to what classes they want and need.

### From U-High to channel 2

Scott Gurvey, '69, produces weekend newscasts

By Isabel Bradburn

The Saturday morning quiet of the channel 2 newsroom is punctuated only by the steady hum of wire service machines. Interrupting the quiet, Weekend News Producer Scott Gurvey—U-High '69, Princeton B.A. '73, Columbia M.A. '74—arrives.

He walks to his desk with an assurance born of familiarity, joking with an associate.

The easy pace of the nearly empty newsroom will not intensify until later, when the number of news stories increases, and copy writers and editors arrive. Gurvey must then determine what the 6 and 10 p.m. broadcasts will include, and in what order the stories will be presented.

"Saturday and Sunday are my big days," he says

to a visitor. "Monday, Thursday and Friday I work as a staff writer for the 6 o'clock news."

He consults with an editor, speaking above the murmur of the machines. He is decked in brown: Brown pullover, brown slacks, brown socks and shoes. His short hair is also brown, but his eyes, fringed with long, delicate lashes, are a compelling blue-grey.

"The thing I like about this job is that every day is different," he says. "I mean, I haven't got the slightest idea what the lead in the 6 o'clock news is going to be right now."

Gurvey, a self-described "computer fanatic" at U-High, later lost interest in them.

"Computers are pretty much the same," he reflects. "They keep getting bigger and better, but they're still basically

the same."

In college, he turned to radio, "fell in love with it" and went on to get a master's degree in journalism.

"U-High isn't going to prepare you for this profession or that profession," he muses. "U-High's value is that it gives you a good all-round background. If you know a little about a lot of things, you're in good shape."

"I think people wind up getting very specialized and have very narrow, one-track kind of optimism," he says. "But you can't—or I can't, anyway—get concentrated into one particular thing. It's just not interesting, not exciting."

A reporter interrupts, calling over a shortwave radio, and summarizes his situation to Gurvey. Gurvey and a writer



SCOTT GURVEY  
... and all's well

confer. Already the newsroom tempo begins to increase.

"Hey, it's one o'clock," exclaims an editor. "Where's the bell, Scott?"

Gurvey tinkles a silver bell. "One o'clock and all is well," he intones to the newsroom.

"It's tradition," he explains.



# Suicide represents attempt to deal with desperation, psychology prof says

By Chris Scott,  
indepth newsfeatures editor

Most adolescents make it through their teenage years, successfully coping with pressures from home, school, peers and the process of maturation. Others need help from counselors, psychologists or psychiatrists. Some don't make it at all. Feeling trapped and hopeless, they search frantically for a way to escape their problems. Sometimes they turn to suicide.

"SUICIDE IS A WAY of trying to deal with desperation," according to Dr. Sherman Feinstein, assistant professor of psychology at the University.

"But there are many ways that people try to handle their frustration," he continued, "most caused by a serious inner conflict. Some are depressed, suffer from psychosomatic illnesses, regression and try to 'act out' their desperation by drinking, vandalism and other general delinquencies in a way to communicate to others that they need help."

According to Dr. Feinstein, some adolescents feel despair because of conflict. And this conflict needn't be a serious problem. The conflict could come with pressure from parents, foreclosing an activity, being jilted by a boyfriend or girlfriend, or getting pregnant—anything to downgrade one's self esteem.

"SAY THAT a student comes home with a bad report card. They feel desperate and go upstairs and take a bottle of aspirin. So they come downstairs and tell their parents

about the aspirin and not the report card as a plea for help. That attempt while feeling despair is just a way of saying 'I need help,'" he said.

In the age group of 15 to 24 years, Dr. Feinstein estimates that there are 60 suicide attempts for every death by suicide. "One must differentiate between a suicidal gesture, such as taking a bottle of aspirin, and an actual death. It's true, though, that males are more prone to the suicidal gesture since they are more aggressive and they use those ways out of their problems," Dr. Feinstein continued. "Females, on the other hand," he said, "use 'softer' methods, like taking something."

DR. FEINSTEIN pointed out that school can be a major source of pressure, "basically because of the base reality with grades and competition."

Social pressures in school also may lead to depression and a possible suicide attempt, especially in urban schools. "Alienation, or drug experiences could also cause it," Dr. Feinstein continued, "but it (pressure) varies and depends on the social group that one associates with."

"For example, in Japan it's common for someone to commit suicide if they fail their baccalaureate exam (comparable to our college entrance exams)."

DR. FEINSTEIN views U-High as a "typical upper middle class high school, although it gives pressures also."

Lack of communication can intensify feelings of desperation leading to hypochondria and other symptoms

typical of desperate people, Dr. Feinstein said.

The hypochondriac — a person who believes he or she is or is about to become ill—may experience constipation, loss of appetite or interest in regular activities and fatigue. Not every hypochondriac attempts suicide, but such symptoms should represent a signal to people who know such a person that a suicide attempt might be made, Dr. Feinstein said.

OTHER SIGNALS include:

- History of suicide in the immediate family.
- History of parental death during the person's adolescence.
- History of impulsive behavior, specifically suicide attempts.
- Depression or feelings of wor-

thlessness.

• Guilt or hopelessness about the future.

• Restlessness or agitation.

"There are also 'epidemics' of suicide, like those that occurred two years ago at U-High," Dr. Feinstein said, "where if one person commits suicide, one, two or possibly three others will because of that initial one."

"BUT THE most important thing in dealing with despair and possible subsequent suicide attempts," he continued, "is to recognize the signs and get the message that this person needs help. They should be advised to see a doctor or psychiatrist, or even if on drugs, which can be another cause of despair, to a drug prevention center to help recognize and try to treat the problem."



## SUICIDE:

Crossing out life

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The State Mental Health Department also has a crisis intervention service, 794-3609.

The people on the other end of those phone lines

understand why people get desperate. Jim Valluzzi, in-house coordinator for Metro-Help, said that a series of unpleasant events can cause intense depression, worsened by loneliness.

"One thing that stands out about teenage suicides," he said, "is their feeling of powerlessness." That feeling is often justified, he pointed out, because adolescents are never really in control of their lives.

Also, Mr. Valluzzi said, teenagers tend to be impulsive: they usually act upon the wish to kill themselves within a few weeks, instead of waiting several months as adults often do.

So if life doesn't seem worth living anymore, remember there are people who understand, people who want to help you.

Give life a chance.

## At U-High

### Remembering that terrible June of 1974

By Fred Offenkrantz

Two years ago a U-High teacher, and then a student, committed suicide during the last two weeks of school. People here now who were here then remember that time as one of shock and disbelief.

Science Teacher Jerry Ferguson was found dead in his North Side townhouse Tues., June 4. People here then mostly remember reacting immediately with a feeling of shock, while a few, like Science Teacher Murray Hozinsky, didn't feel the impact right away.

"I didn't actually realize that he was dead until I went to the funeral home and saw his body," Mr. Hozinsky said.

Mr. Ferguson's death became a major topic of conversation, because, as Jenny Aliber put it, "Everyone wanted to know why he had done it, especially if we could have done something." Another student posted a poem about Mr. Ferguson's death on the front board.

On Friday, students and teachers gathered in the Assembly Room for a memorial service. Mr. Ferguson's family attended.

The following Tuesday the school learned of the suicide the day before of Junior Michael Adams.

Michael's death intensified the shock evident at school. Many people who don't remember feeling the first suicide strongly remember feeling the second. A friend of Michael, Hal

Bernstein, remembered not believing that Michael was dead at first, then feeling confused, then frustrated.

Others, who hadn't known either Mr. Ferguson or Michael, remember feeling simply bewildered. John Rogers remembers thinking, "My God... What's going on here?"

On the last day of school students and teachers remembered Michael in an early morning outdoor ceremony. Close friends played his favorite rock records and gave a balloon to each of the more than 250 people gathered.

Then they passed around strawberries, which Michael loved.

Later everyone tied their balloons to a colorful banner that read, "For Michael With Love," and watched it sail away over the lake.

## An attempt to express

"On the Nature of Suicide," edited by Edwin Shneidman, Jossey-Bass Inc., San Francisco, 1969. 146 pages.

By Rebecca Alev

The person who attempts suicide does not necessarily intend to die. This is an important message in "On the Nature of Suicide," a collection of articles written by psychiatrists, psychologists and other authorities on the subject of suicide.

The authors generally agree that the intent is often not to die, but to express something. Dr. Karl Menninger writes, "It is important to distinguish suicide as a form of death and suicide as an attempted expression of something within one: helplessness, desperation, fear and other emotions."

THE PERSON WHO attempts suicide, Jack D. Douglas, Ph. D., contends, often does not really intend to die nor does he have any clear conception of what death really is. Because of this, to kill himself is not always his true purpose.

Many of the authors point out that not every person who attempts suicide does not want to die, but that frequently such persons do not actually picture themselves as no longer living.

THE AUTHORS ALSO discuss what motivates a person to commit suicide and suggests many suicide prevention programs. These programs would provide all types of care for persons with suicidal tendencies, many of whom do not really want to die.

Dr. Erwin Stengel writes, "Most people who commit an act of self-damage ... do not want either to live or die, but to do both at the same time."

## 'Not the best way of escaping problems'

By Jon Rasmussen

Suicide is not immoral or bad, U-Highers interviewed by the Midway believe, but they wouldn't seriously consider it for themselves, and they don't think it is the best way of escaping problems.

"If a person wants to kill himself, that's his way out," Andrea Cavelti said. "I think everyone has at one point thought they'd rather kill themselves than go through some situation. But I don't think I'd even consider it."

Edwidge Raoul said suicide has occurred to her, but she never intended to go through with it. "I think about it when I get upset or discouraged in some way," she said. "But somebody shouldn't kill themselves because they're mad about problems. Problems can be solved."

Nicholas Black saw suicide as "illogical." He said that "problems are a result of your environment and the view you have of it, so if you're depressed, your views are wrong. You should remove yourself from that environment or change your views."

He added that "a lot of people try to kill themselves to gain attention, but a lot are serious about it." Those who commit suicide, he said, "have a poor self-image because they can't compete in their environment."

Kirsten Engel thought that "most people who commit suicide need psychiatric help. People don't see the possibilities of getting out of their problems and they need someone to talk to."

Glen Berry said, "I don't think suicide is right or wrong; it's up to a person if he wants to take his own life, but I don't see any reason why he would have to. I don't see it as a

necessary action, because things are not as bad as people see them, and death is a pretty drastic way to solve any problem."

Glen said that he has felt extremely depressed but has never come close to killing himself. "I suppose everybody has had that feeling at some point, but I don't think suicide is the answer. I like myself too much to ever kill myself."

Wayne Braxton emphasized that one should not commit suicide impulsively, because one's problems are never as bad as they seem at the time of intense depression. He said that "it's an easy way out" but anyone who considers it should realize that he can make a better judgment and is more likely to decide to live if he evaluates his life over a period of time.

Photo by Paul Sagan

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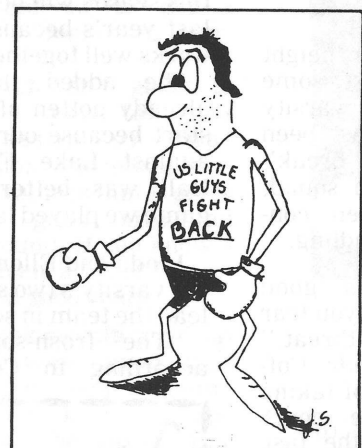
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# Varsity cagers disappointed but proud

## Lose in regionals, take 2nd in league

By Greg Simmons, sports editor

Coach Sandy Patlak was disappointed but proud of the team's performance this year after the varsity basketball season ended with a loss to Luther South in Illinois High School Association regional playoffs.

While sorting team uniforms, Coach Patlak said, "I don't think we had exceptional ballplayers, but the guys wanted to play ball and worked hard."

EQUALLY as proud were the players. The Maroons had been defeated 61-51, by, as Captain Johnny Rogers put it, a "bigger, stronger team that played better than we did."

"Also, their strength under the basket hurt us," Johnny continued. "They play in a stronger league, and they're used to tougher competition."

In the first regional game, Feb. 23, U-High defeated Providence-St. Mel 66-65 on two free throws by Johnny Rogers in the final seconds.

ACCORDING TO Coach Patlak, lack of height, not enough bench power and dependence on two players for scoring, with only one outside shooter, Mercer Cook, hurt the team throughout the year, especially in the playoffs.

The Maroons took 2nd place in Independent School League (ISL) standings, behind St. Michael, with a 12-2 league record and a 17-7 overall record.

The Maroons had taken 1st the previous three seasons.

"WE CERTAINLY had a good season; the players learned a lot," Patlak said. "But then, there is so much to learn in a season."

Competing in Thanksgiving and Christmas tournaments with teams outside the ISL, the Maroons suffered three of their seven losses. Two of the other losses were to out-of-league teams.

"Both tournaments helped us," Patlak explained. "We gained experience against tougher teams."

"In the future," Patlak continued, "we must get kids that like to play ball, have the ability—specifically the basics: catching, passing, shooting and playing defense—and they must be dedicated."

this season will be better than last year's because the team works well together."

She added that "we've already gotten off to a good start because our first game against Lake Forest-Ferry Hall was better than any game we played last year."

Linda and Ellen Markovitz, the varsity's two sophomores, lead the team in scoring.

"The frosh-soph team," according to Coach Mary



Photos by Paul Sagan

SURROUNDED BY Luther South players, Maroon Captain Johnny Rogers goes up for a shot in IHSA regional playoffs, Feb. 25 at Timothy Christian. The Maroons lost to Luther South, 61-51.

FINALLY REALIZING the season is over, Varsity Cager Steve Lutterbeck squats along the freethrow line during the final minute of play.

WITH LESS than a minute to go in the game, Coach Sandy Patlak follows the action with disappointment.



## Frosh-soph cagers tie for title

By Jon Simon

Attitude and communication were important factors contributing to a 13 win-4 loss record and a tie for 1st place in the Independent School League for the frosh-soph basketball team, according to Coach Guy Arkin.

"The team's attitude was good from the beginning," he explained. "The communication on the team was fantastic," he added.

Arkin often brought in nonstarting players. "We tried to give everybody an equal opportunity and still win," he continued. "There were only two or three games everyone didn't play in."

Starters Kevin Lewis and Leo Lindo, however, felt that nonstarters were often brought in too early, allowing opponents to catch up.

Team members felt that Arkin's being new at U-High wasn't a factor in their record. He saw his only problem as "getting to know individuals and how I affect them as a coach. That was solved by great communication."

## Girl cagers

### ...work on fast breaks, handling

By Debby Haselkorn

To compensate for height disadvantage against some opponents, the girls' varsity basketball team has been working on a "fast-break" play. The frosh-soph squad, meanwhile, has been concentrating on ball handling.

"Fast-breaking is good against teams where you fear their height will be a threat," Varsity Coach Brenda Coffield said. "Instead of taking the ball down the court against a defense, the fast break gives you a chance to get the ball down the court ahead of the defense, by quick rebounding and passing."

Ms. Coffield expects North Shore, who U-High will play there Saturday, to prove a tough opponent because of its height.

Varsity player Linda Skinner feels the squad "has a lot of individual talent and

## RECENT RESULTS

### Runners top Fenger, Bolingbrook

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

**TRACK**  
Fenger and Bolingbrook, Feb. 13, here. U-High 73, Bolingbrook 44, Fenger 50.

**U-High Frosh-Soph Relay Invitational**, Feb. 20, here. U-High took 3rd place out of 10 teams in this new meet.

**Luther North and Francis Parker**, Feb. 27, here. U-High 53, Luther North 60, U-High 67½, Francis Parker 48½.

**GIRLS' BASKETBALL**  
Lake Forest-Ferry Hall, Feb. 10, there, 69-22 (39-16).

Latin, Feb. 18, there, 48-33 (28-17)  
North Shore, Feb. 10, here, 25-54 (31-15).

Kenwood, Feb. 24, there, 33-29.  
Francis Parker, Feb. 27, here, 38-15 (41-4).

**BOYS' BASKETBALL**  
Morgan Park Academy, Feb. 10, here, 84-75 (52-42).  
Glenwood, Feb. 13, there, 61-54 (54-36).

St. Michael's Feb. 17, 53-52 (54-49).

The varsity victory allowed U-High to move into a tie for 1st place in ISL standings with St. Michael's. Both teams had 12-1 league records.

**Quigley North**, Feb. 20, there, 60-67 (42-38). This was the Varsity's final game of the regular season. The loss put U-High in 2nd place in final ISL standings.

**IHSA Regional Playoff**, Providence-St. Mel, Feb. 23 at Timothy Christian, 66-65. The Maroons let a lead slip away, but came back to win on two free throws by Captain Johnny Rogers.

**IHSA Regional Semifinal Playoff**, Luther South, Feb. 51-61, at Timothy Christian. This game was close until

the 3rd quarter when the Braves ran away with it. The game ended the Maroons' season.

**SWIMMING**  
Glenwood, Feb. 10, there, 56-19.  
**ISL Championship Meet**, Feb. 13 at Lake Forest. U-High took 1st place in the ISL with little trouble.

**IHSA District Meet**, Feb. 21 at Lyons Township. U-High took 72 points, 30 more than last year and took 4th place, beating all the teams that had beaten U-High during the season. Two school records were set in the process, in the 200-yard medley relay and 400-yard freestyle relay. No swimmers qualified for the State Meet.

## COMING CONTESTS

### Warriorettes here tomorrow

**GIRLS' BASKETBALL**  
Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Wed., Mar. 3, here.  
Lake Forest Academy, 4 p.m., Fri., Mar. 5, here.  
North Shore, 10:30 a.m., Sat., Mar. 6, there.  
Latin, 4 p.m., Tues., Mar. 9, here.  
Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Thurs., Mar. 11, there.  
Harvard-St. George, 4 p.m., Fri., Mar. 12, here.

Francis Parker, 4 p.m., Tues., Mar. 16, there.

**TRACK**  
All meets at University Fieldhouse 56th St. and University Ave.  
Lake View, 4 p.m., Thurs., Mar. 4  
Kennedy, 4 p.m., Fri., Mar. 12.  
Third Annual U-High Indoor Invitational, Fri., Mar. 19.

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## Gymnasts to perform

FOR THE fourth year, U-Highers talented in gymnastics will present a show Thurs., Mar. 18 in Upper Sunny Gym. About 12 students from Lower to High School are expected to present routines on the even and uneven parallel bars, trampoline and horizontal bar. Linda Skinner here executes a split, part of her routine for the show.

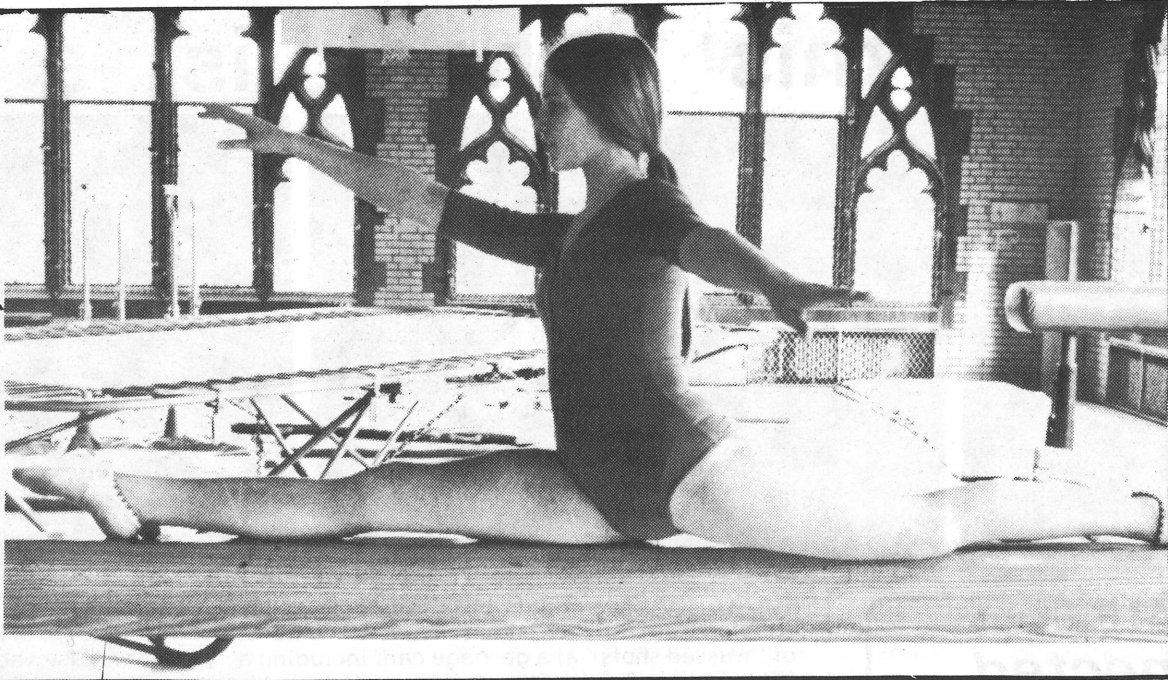


Photo by Paul Sagan

## Runners up times

In spite of injuries, the indoor track team, at mid-season, continues to improve its times.

"We're doing better than we were," Distance Runner Peter Lortie said. "The relays are faster. People are running faster. And lately we've had more people showing up to practice."

Ron Drozd attributed faster times to "kids running smarter races. They're not burning themselves up the first half of the run."

Miler Marty Billingsley observed, "Everyone is working really hard; we're running faster."

## Swimmers take 1st in league

By Aaron Stern

Capping a 10-win, 4 loss season, and their third straight 1st place finish in the Independent School League championship, the varsity swim team came in 5th in district competition Feb. 21.

The frosh-soph team ended the season with a 4 win, 3 loss record.

Swim Coach Larry McFarlane said he was satisfied with the 30-man teams' performances.

McFarlane attributed the varsity's success to depth and three "hard to replace" senior varsity swimmers, Jim Peyton, Jef Fish and Brian Cohn, who consistently won their events this year.

Of the varsity's four losses, three came against large suburban schools. Three were close, decided by 3 points or less.

"When we lost, both swimmers and divers had opportunities that could have reversed the result," McFarlane said.

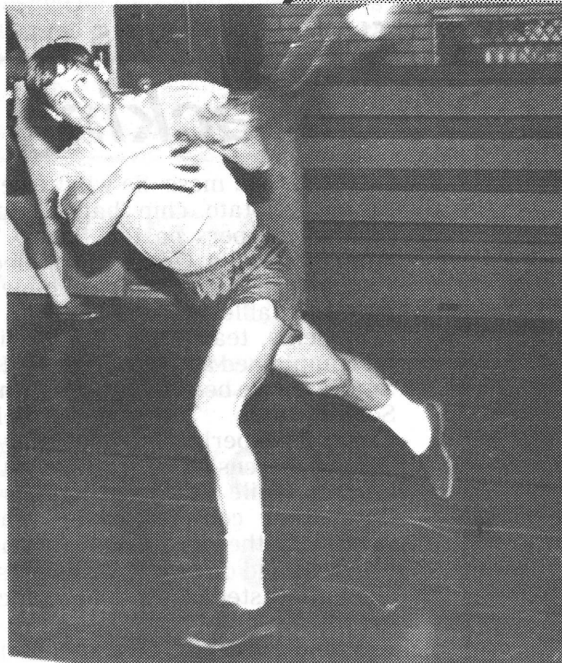
The diving squad, new this year as a result of enough divers coming out for the team, "performed as well as could be expected, considering I didn't devote much time to them, judging the

swimmers as more important," McFarlane said.

The Maroons won the ISL Championship at Lake Forest Academy, Feb. 13, decisively, taking 1st place in eight of 11 events with a total 107 points, more than double that of the 2nd-place team, Quigley North.

"We did what we were supposed to do," Coach McFarlane concluded. "Two swimmers in every event scored points."

Competition in the district was highlighted by victories in the freestyle and medley relays that broke U-High records.



Math Student Teacher Dennis Sadowski at badminton.

Photo by David Cahnmann

## Tuesday teacher time in Sunny

Tuesday nights after students have staggered out of Sunny Gym, Lab Schools faculty members and their husbands and wives revitalize it.

In bermuda shorts, gym shorts, tee-shirts and sweatshirts, they play basketball vigorously ... and badminton and volleyball with less vitality.

When their breath is short and their bodies soaked with sweat, the faculty members and husbands and wives stumble down to the swimming pool for a refreshing splash.

Principal Geoff Jones, Latin Teacher Donald Jacques and Lower School Teacher Galen Lowe arranged the nights to give faculty members and their husbands and wives opportunities to exercise together, Mr. Jones said.

## FROM THE REAR

## Legends don't live long here

By Mark Hornung, sports page columnist

A few weeks ago, I watched a college basketball game on television. During halftime several graduates of that school were inducted into its athletic hall of fame.

U-High doesn't have a hall of fame. But there are ways in which glorious U-High jock graduates could be honored. Their pictures could be hung in every long corridor in the school. Or they could come back annually to tell a packed Sunny Gym how U-High helped them become men. Or they could have a homecoming dance (which "La Serta Del Anno" wasn't, although many U-Highers called it that; alumni weren't especially invited).

Then again, U-Highers do have their own special way of remembering those grads of glory in maroon and white. They forget about them.

To prove my point, I asked several U-Highers what the names of five distinguished U-High jock grads mean to them.

STAN DENIS, '68, holder of four U-High swim records. "I think I saw him in a horror movie." Someone else said, "He

sounds like a pro hockey player."

RON BARNES, '66, star basketball player. "He sounds like a farmer to me." A more frank U-Higher said, "How the hell should I know who he is?"

DAVE JACOBS, '68, Monilaw Award Winner. "He was a short guy who had a beard. And he graduated last year." Not quite, fella. You're thinking of his brother, Jon, '75.

GARY PEKOE, '71, founder of U-High's illustrious hockey team. "He sounds like the answer to a Polish joke."

JIMMY SOLOMON, '72 — Monilaw Award Winner. "Isn't he Judy's twin brother? Kind of short? A sophomore I think." Sorry, you've mistaken him for Bobby.

I rest my case.



Mark Hornung

## Ballet rates dance credit

Students in Phys Ed Teacher Yvette Matuszak's dance classes can earn extra credit for attending ballet performances. "I think that the students should see how the professionals dance," Ms. Matuszak said. "They should learn to appreciate dance." Although they get the extra credit, students still must make up missed classes.

## Bikers to go to Tennessee

Twenty-one members of the Bike Club will peddle their way through Tennessee during spring vacation. The trip, organized by Matt Lincoln, Stuart Field and Mona Sadow, is not school-sponsored. Phys Ed Teacher Patricia Seghers and Lower School Teacher Galen Lowe have volunteered to chaperon. The cyclists intend to transport themselves and their bikes in cars and trailers to reach Tennessee.

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# Good grief, this school is a mess!

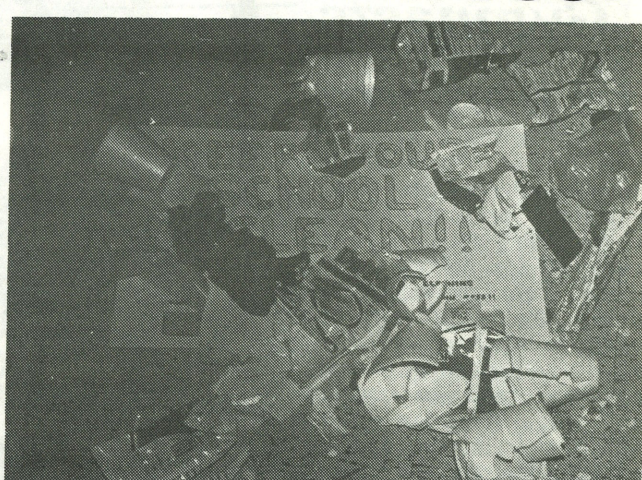
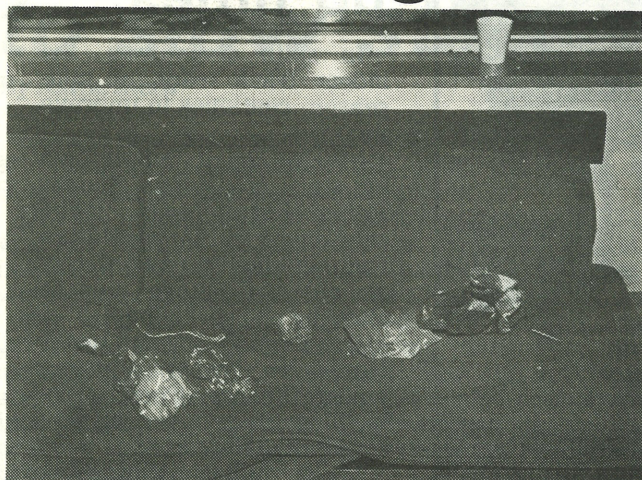
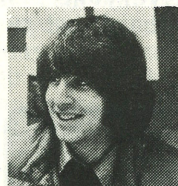


Photo by Harry Gray

## SAGAN SAYS

### *She expected maybe Maxim's?*



By Paul Sagan, editor-in-chief

Let's face it. You can't expect much from school cafeteria food. It's produced en masse and must be made inexpensively. U-Highers seem to accept our cafeteria's food. At least we find it edible since hundreds of us are willing to shell out about 75 cents everyday for lunch. But what might an outsider say about our food? Say a gourmet cook like Jeanne Orlikoff, Michael's mother.

To find out, I fruit punched and lunched her here a couple of weeks ago.

Ms. Orlikoff found our first course, a green salad, "perfectly adequate." She added, "the lettuce is crisp and the French dressing is basic restaurant quality."

But from there her opinions of the food dropped with every bite. "The fried fish has much too much breading and tastes unseasoned," Ms. Orlikoff choked. "The bun is like sponge rubber. It has no taste or texture."

Our third course, spaghetti with meat sauce, didn't fare any better. "It's overcooked, too soft. It also needs seasoning. For nutritional value the ratio of meat to spaghetti is incredibly low," she added with disgust.

About our dessert, a chocolate covered doughnut, Ms. Orlikoff said, "It's indistinguishable from the bun on the fish except for the chocolate. It's much too heavy ...tastes like pure flour and water."

Our beloved French fries, however, rated worst in the meal. "They're much too oily. They taste like they were cooked yesterday. I can squeeze an incredible amount of grease from the fries, which is a bad sign. They also need salt," she said.

I wish I could have at least sent Ms. Orlikoff away with a refreshing taste in her mouth, but about the punch, which she ended with, she said, "Oh, Jesus, it's too sweet. I can't believe it."

LUNCHBAG remnants on a cafeteria couch (photos from left), or on the floor, and remains of "missed shots" at a garbage can, including a "Keep Your School Clean" sign posted by the Student Legislative Coordinating Council,

reflect just part of U-High's maintenance problem. Elsewhere in the school, more trash, graffiti and outright vandalism such as broken ceiling tiles could be pictured.

## THE MIDWAY'S OPINION

### *Cracking down on a dump*

U-High is a mess. So what else is new? Look around. Potato chip bags, paper cups and candy wrappers on the floors. Tiles missing from the ceiling. Graffiti scribbled on the walls. Lunch trays piled with garbage scattered on cafeteria tables.

Students, teachers and administrators have all complained about the mess. "It's worse than any year I've been here," said English Teacher Sophie Ravin. "The students feel since no one cleans it properly why should they care?"

Both the custodial staff and students are to blame. While many custodians probably do their work conscientiously, many other obviously do theirs haphazardly and irregularly. Careless and destructive students scatter trash around wastebaskets and deface walls with graffiti.

William Durkin, foreman of janitorial services who supervises the custodians, believes the problem exists in the training of the janitors. "They were never properly trained," he explained. "They don't want to be retrained."

They think they know the job."

Earlier this year the University hired an independent consulting firm from Atlanta to evaluate the maintenance situation on campus, including the situation at U-High. Director Nel Noddings and Associate Director Donald Conway then met with William Cannon, University vice president for business and finance, about a solution to the problem. "We didn't find out how the evaluation turned out," said Mr. Conway. "We got a promise he was concerned and would look into it."

A possible solution for U-High would be not to use the staff the University hires for maintenance, but to hire an outside firm for the job. It might cost more, but the University, if it wasn't satisfied, could drop the contract. And the firm, knowing that, hopefully would do the job properly.

It wouldn't hurt, either, if U-Highers were as good at cleaning up messes as they were at making them.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to David Shaw, Mitchell Saywitz and Jon Simon who, despite bus breakdowns and warm weather, successfully coordinated several Tuesday night Ski Club trips to Alpine Valley in Wisconsin.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Go ahead with the Festival

For the second consecutive year, the future of the May Festival, begun in 1969, is being questioned by administrators and teachers because they feel there is not enough time or money to organize it.

In response to a questionnaire distributed to teachers by Student Activities Coordinator Ursula Roberts approximately one-third of the faculty who answered supported the continuation of the Festival and said they would work on it.

Others either said they supported the Festival but couldn't work on it, or opposed its continuation.

The survey, however, does not truly indicate overall teacher opinion about the Festival, according to Drama Teacher Liucija Ambrosini, who directs the Festival play.

"One-third of the teachers is more than we've ever had working on the Festival before," she said.

Ms. Roberts has set up a committee to study possible alternatives to the Festival, and Principal Geoff Jones has expressed interest in the idea of bringing back the Bazaarnival, an indoor bazaar and the carnival last held in 1969.

But reviving Bazaarnival would make the Festival play virtually impossible because of lack of space, according to Ms. Ambrosini.

And, replacing the Festival with Bazaarnival would also eliminate an outdoor activity in the spring, which U-High needs. The season and mood of the Festival are vital to the school's morale.

The committee, which has yet to begin work, is a good idea, but to start working less than three months before the Festival's scheduled opening would yield a poorly organized and haphazard solution to the problem.

The Festival and its options should be studied, but it's too late to make changes in a Festival for this spring. It should be held as usual, outdoors, this year. Then, next year options should be studied with great care and effort.

Editor's note: After this editorial was in type, teachers and administrators met Friday and decided to go ahead with a May Festival this year.

## the Midway

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MANAGER: CHRIS SCOTT

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## PHOTOPIINIONS

### *Thoughts on May Festival*

By Jon Rasmussen, public opinion editor

The May Festival (see editorial this page) should be continued despite its problems, said most U-Highers interviewed by the Midway.

Liz Goldwyn said she thought the festival should go on. "It's really a vital thing to U-High because this school is too academically oriented."

John Rogers said the festival was time-consuming, but "It's worth the work. Setting up the project and organizing it is an excellent education."

Keith Getz agreed that the festival should be continued because "it's an enjoyable form of entertainment, and what's more important, it provides an opportunity to contribute in all kinds of fields."

Cherie McNeill was the only one with doubts. She said that although she likes the festival "it seems more important for teachers and students to put their time and effort into school rather than secondary things like the May Festival. I wouldn't want it continued if the school would lose educational quality."



Liz Goldwyn



John Rogers



Keith Getz



Cherie McNeill

## MIDWAY MAILBOX

### *Still more on drug use*

From Mimi Alev, senior:

This letter is in response to "Another view of marijuana" in the Feb. 10 issue of the Midway. I shall address the anonymous commentator as Mr. X.

Whether the drug user is someone who can be constructive while under the influence of marijuana may or may not be the case. Unfortunately, this is not the same question as "Is it permissible for students to come to class stoned?" The fact remains that marijuana is illegal and whether we agree with the restriction, we are bound to it. You as an individual, Mr. X., may choose to commit an illegal act but an institution cannot take on the responsibility of knowingly permitting drug activity on the premises.

As a senior, if you are applying to colleges, Mr. X., surely you must be aware of the advantages of coming from a school as highly accredited as U-High. If you feel that being stoned can be a learning experience, then by all means, do it at home with a textbook in front of you, perhaps. But it is not your place to jeopardize the credibility of U-High and those who benefit from it. For a person who claims to exhibit such self-control even when under the influence of certain drugs would it be so difficult to refrain from this particular activity during school hours?