

Thinking big about student government

Presidents plan to strengthen programs and participation



Student government

By John Schloerb,
Government editor

SLCC's need for support



"Student government's effectiveness depends to a large degree on the extent to which it is supported by the students" in the opinion of Anders Thompson, president of the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC), the central branch of student government. To build support, Anders feels he needs "a broad base coalition" between SLCC and the student body.

"Building a broad base coalition of support for SLCC entails two things," Anders explained. "First is having support in terms of students agreeing with our positions. For this we will have to be more representative. Second is to encourage a willingness on the part of students to voice their support."

To create effective student leadership, Anders feels that it is necessary to improve the students' image of SLCC and to increase their support of it. Improving communication is one of his major concerns. "If the students don't know what's going on, then they can't support what we're doing," Anders explained. To improve communication, Anders said that he is considering reactivating the school's intercom system.

Each room and hall in U-High has speakers which once were connected to a two-way communications console in the principal's office. Anders would like to broadcast SLCC announcements and general messages over the speakers during lunch and passing periods. Students voted 106-64 in favor of using the intercom in a referendum Oct. 4. Concerning the feasibility of reactivating the intercom, principal Geoff Jones told the Midway, "I don't think it is possible. The console is gone and I don't know about the circuits. The cost would be too much and the advantages are not that great. I recognize the problems in communication but I don't think the P.A. system is the answer."

Publicizing SLCC-sponsored activities with posters and publishing more interesting minutes are other ways SLCC plans to improve communication, Anders added.

Getting students involved in decision-making and soliciting their opinions by holding referendums is also a part of student government's goals, according to Anders. "I'd like to see two all-school or class meetings a quarter," Anders said. These meetings in Sunny Gym would allow students to voice opinions

to SLCC about important news and vote on those issues.

Student involvement can also be promoted, Anders believes, by having SLCC members ask students in the halls for their ideas about important issues during the year. Anders is also considering establishing a suggestion box.

In a SLCC meeting Sept. 28 members decided to drop the Student Evaluations of Teacher Committee for this year. The evaluation program was begun in 1975-76 by a group of students after SLCC decided not to pursue the idea. The program originally was designed to let teachers know what their students thought of their teaching. Participation was voluntary and results shown only to each teacher for his or classes. SLCC took over the committee its second year, hoping to establish a required program with published results for students to use in selecting classes, but could not get administrative support for such a plan. Last year an attempt to publish results of a survey on teaching procedures but keep results on teaching quality confidential failed because too many teachers refused to participate. An all-school referendum conducted last year by SLCC indicated that U-Highers wanted evaluations with published results. About SLCC's decision to drop the evaluations committee this year, Anders said, "I think SLCC voted this way because they were disappointed with the lack of success of last year's effort."

Members of the committee decided last week to continue their work independently and apply for funding from SLCC.

Anders also plans to get SLCC members more involved in SLCC meetings and activities. "The people are so timid on SLCC this year and have to be prodded to do anything," Anders explained. "Right now we're telling them how important it is to be active members. But if the members aren't working it can end in impeachments. Impeachment doesn't faze me at all. If we have to use it we will."

Anders hopes that SLCC will be able to help the faculty revise old courses and outline new ones this year. "We're going to set up a committee to look into new course ideas which would come from the students," he explained.

C.U.'s social fever



Girls can ask boys to Cultural Union's next party, 7:30-11 p.m., Fri., Nov. 10 in the cafeteria. It's a Sadie Hawkins dance.

A Halloween party planned for Oct. 27 was cancelled because of PSATs the next day and other conflicts but, said C.U. President Sabryna King, a Halloween costume party planned for it will still take place during lunch, Tues., Oct. 31 in the cafeteria. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 costumes.

Sabryna said C.U., the social branch of student government, is planning a heavy schedule of events. They include an all-school Olympics, frisbee contest, secretaries' day, spelling bee, international day and baking contest. Scheduled parties include a Christmas party, Valentine party, semiformal dance and a dance marathon.

Organizing meetings better and building togetherness among C.U.'s

members are two of Sabryna's major goals. "I was lucky," Sabryna said. "I've got people on the board this year who I feel will work pretty well together, unlike last year when the board was completely split. Better organization on a whole should mean the parties will be better."

Sabryna also hopes to increase student attendance at C.U. parties. "Because people have told me they don't know the new dance steps we'll have C.U. members giving lessons at lunch on Fridays," she said. "If we can show people what they're like, then maybe more people will come."

Publicizing C.U.'s activities better is another job Sabryna feels C.U. must accomplish. "We have just got to let people know what's going on," she said. "Knowing that will get them more into the swing of things." Placing a monthly calendar of C.U. events in the front entrance of U-High is under consideration.

A serious Board



Making students take Student Board meetings and trials seriously and building faculty and student support are 2 goals on which president Gretchen Antelman plans to concentrate this year. Student Board is the disciplinary branch of student government.

"The problem with Student Board last year was the students didn't take it seriously," Gretchen explained. "They didn't care if they were brought up before the Board. They didn't care if they received punishment, because it probably wouldn't be enforced anyway."

To make sure punishments are enforced, Gretchen said, "I'll tell members to tell me if someone doesn't do his work as punishment and we'll punish that person more severely."

Gretchen presently is looking for a

faculty adviser for the Board. She feels that having a faculty member present at meetings will make students respect the Board more than they did last year.

"I'm looking for a teacher now who will have the time to attend meetings and be more a part of Student Board than the advisers in the past have been," she said.

Gretchen feels that by accomplishing these goals, the Board can build support from the faculty and student body. "If we do our job effectively they should support us," she explained. "I think the support of students is important because if students support the institution they will write referrals and be more aware of school rules and that will improve school behavior."

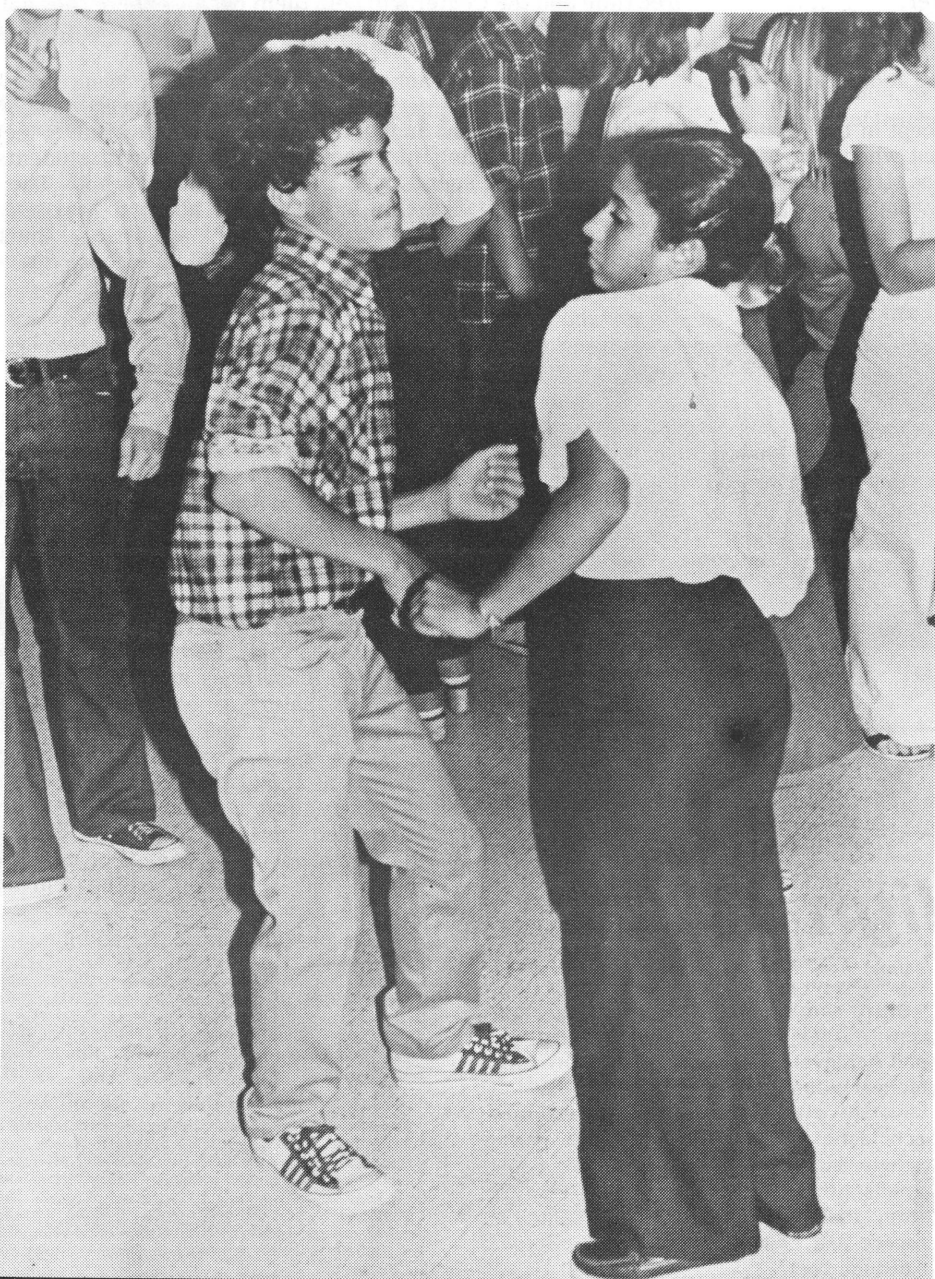


Photo by James Marks

First party

WITH WIDE-EYED apprehension in many cases, freshmen attended their first U-High party, Cultural Union's "Welcome Back Party," Fri., Sept. 27 in the cafeteria.

Approximately 400 U-Highers and their guests boogied to the disco music played by two disc jockeys. Halfway into the party, C.U. served

up McDonald's hamburgers and cheeseburgers and soft drinks.

"I thought the turnout was great," said C.U. President Sabryna King.

Two freshmen who didn't seem in the least apprehensive were Michael Zellner and Jennifer Fleming, who danced up a storm.

Helping frosh face the U-High paradox

That's the purpose of the Freshman Center, a new program promoting good study habits

By John Mullan

"Our high school program aims to develop intellectual rigor and personal independence, and this presents the students with paradoxical challenges: as academic demands become ever more rigorous, the student gains greater freedom to set his priorities and allocate his time."

These "paradoxical challenges," as they are described in the student handbook's statement about the Freshman Center, represent a major reason for the new program, according to Ms. Eunice McGuire, one of 3 English teachers directing it. The others are Ms. Sophie Ravin and Ms. Jane Curry. Ms. Ravin and Ms. Curry each direct 3 groups which meet 1 period twice a week in the Center. Ms. McGuire directs 2.

"It's an aid in the transition between Middle School and High School," Ms. McGuire said. "We hope that it will help the students make good use of their time and develop good study habits and skills."

The Center, Ms. McGuire continued, provides a quiet study room where freshmen can get their school work done and get individual tutoring to help improve their study skills and habits. It also provides freshmen with a familiar "base group" of students and a director who acts as a teacher, advocate and adviser; plus supervised study time; independent and small group tutoring; recreational reading; and a regular channel of communication with faculty members, counselors, librarians, administrators and student groups.

The Center has been set up in U-High 301. Besides the regular desks, chairs and book shelves, there are big, colorful pillows for students to relax on.

The idea for the Freshman Center originated last spring at an English Department meeting. "We felt that a writing lab with supervised instruction would benefit the students, and we sub-

Lab Schools enrollment up over estimates

Enrollment in the Lab Schools for the 1978-79 school year has exceeded last year's prediction by about 25 students, according to Lab Schools director R. Bruce McPherson. The Schools' enrollment dropped by 12 students.

Last year's prediction for this year was 1,550 students, Mr. McPherson said. As of Oct. 1, the enrollment was 1,582. Because enrollment has been declining, Mr. McPherson is pleased the figures did not drop to last year's prediction.

The rise, Mr. McPherson feels, has resulted from the efforts of a Joint Committee on Student Recruitment. The committee, which includes 7 faculty members and administrators, was organized in response to a decline in student enrollment over the past few years.

The committee produced publicity on the Lab Schools and arranged speakers, contacts with prospective parents, and visits to the schools with parents of students serving as guides. Mr. McPherson noted that the Schools are now providing school bus service to the Near North Side and extended-day Nursery School and kindergarten twice a week.

"Though the High School lost about 5 students," Mr. McPherson said, "the Lower and Middle Schools gained about 30. This is like a longterm investment, because we'll probably have the Lower School kids all through the 3 schools, rather than just 3 or 4 years in the High School."

mitted a proposal to Mr. Jones," Ms. McGuire said. "It was modified many times because of various problems such as the availability of money and teachers, and finally became the present Freshman Center because we felt the freshmen had the most to gain."

So far the freshmen, as part of an orientation program, have reviewed the student handbook, been given an introduction to the library and studied how to read more efficiently. After the orientation, most time in the Center will be used for quiet study. "Students may make appointments with teachers from other classes for independent help and certain motivated students may be excused for library research or other related activities as the year goes on," Ms. McGuire said.

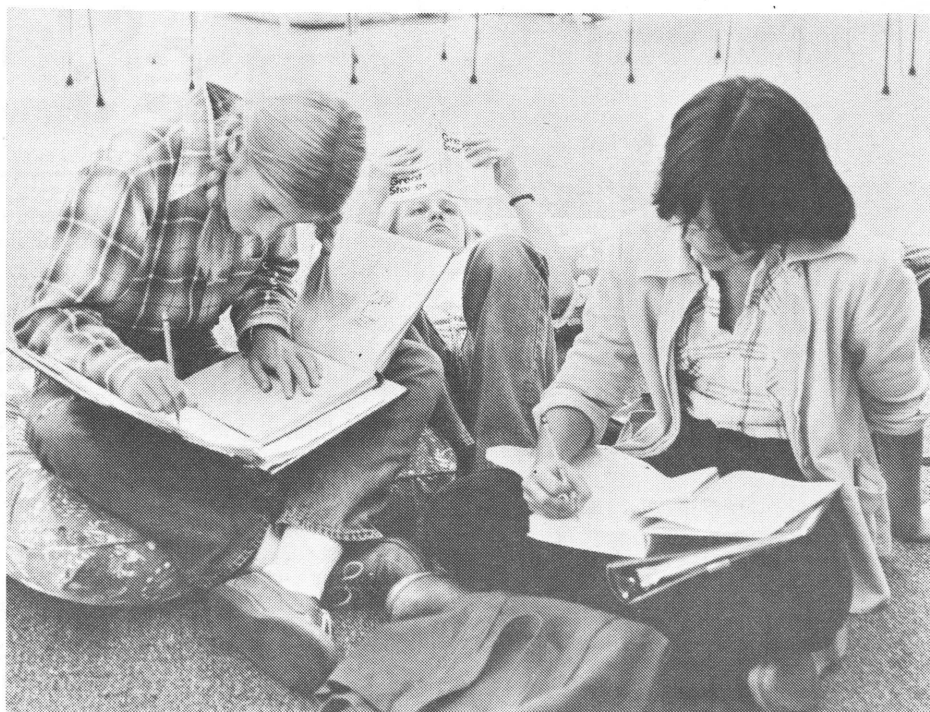


Photo by James Marks

RELAXING QUIETLY, three freshmen — Sophia Gebhard, left, Moira Madden and Masumi Iriye — do their homework in the casual atmosphere of the new Freshman Center. Developed by the English Department to help

freshmen learn good study habits, the Center is intended to aid in the transition from Middle School to High School. Freshmen are required to attend twice a week during their free periods.

Some like Center idea, some don't

Some students and faculty members feel that required study times will encourage freshmen to develop good study habits and skills. But others feel that freshmen would develop them faster if they retained their independence. These are the two main findings of a series of random Midway interviews concerning reactions to the new Freshmen Center.

"I think it's a good idea because it gives us a chance to talk to teachers about problems with our homework," said Freshman Mike Zellner. "But a problem is that some kids waste the period without doing any work."

Sophomore John Kramer felt that the concept of the Center was too rigid and was glad that it didn't exist when he was a freshman. "I think it's a bad idea in that it's too structured," he explained. "A person should be able to develop their study habits on their own to suit their own personal needs. A person who isn't doing this should be counseled and should perhaps be required to go, but the average student develops study habits for himself independently and adequately."

Library Chairperson Winfred Poole said of the Center, "It will help the freshmen get oriented. They've moved from a highly-organized Middle School with little time to themselves to the High School where they have comparatively much more free time. Many of them can't seem to make good use of their free time and the Center will help them because there they can get advice, develop good study habits and get their work done."

But social studies teacher Philip Montag said, "I have reservations about the Center. Money was cut from the library and Guidance Department budgets but put into a study hall. I feel that the money is being misdirected. I don't agree with students being required to spend open periods in a study hall. They should learn to organize time independently, although they may fail in the beginning. In the long run they'll learn faster. I think the Freshman Center would be a good idea, though, on a volunteer basis for those students who feel that they need it."



Photo by James Marks

Brains of U-High

QUALIFYING for finalist status is the next step for nine U-Highers named semifinalists in the 1979 National Merit Scholarship competition and four named semifinalists in the National Achievement Scholarship program for outstanding black students. They are, from left:

Anders Thompson, Richard Agin, Karin Weaver (all Merit); Gina Benson (Achievement); Michael Altmann (Merit); Ann Hightower (Achievement); Jonathan Silverman, Ben Roberts (both Merit); Sharon Wilson (Achievement); and David Quigley (Merit).

Absent from the photo are Guy Oxnard and Alex Rudolph (Merit) and Jackie Pardo (Achievement).

Merit semifinalists scored in top 1/2 percent of their state's graduating seniors, and Achievement semifinalists scored the highest within their geographical region of several states, on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test-National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. To become finalists they will need a recommendation from their principal, a high academic record and high scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

Junior wins fall play lead

Junior Stephen Taylor won the lead role of John, a witch boy, in this year's fall production, "Dark of the Moon," at tryouts the week of Sept. 25.

The play, written by Howard Richardson and William Berney, will be presented Wed.-Sat., Nov. 15-18 in Belfield Theater. Showtimes are 8 p.m. with a matinee Saturday at 2 p.m. Ticket prices will be announced.

"Dark of the Moon," previously performed at U-High in 1968, involves the witch boy marrying a mortal girl, Barbara Allen (portrayed by Susan Power), thereby arousing the anger of both the mortal townspeople and the witches who live nearby.

Other cast members are as follows:

Adam Simon, Maria Hinojosa, Beth Browning, Guy Mundiak, David Light, Lisa Morrow, Donna Sigal, Denise Laffer, Sarah Pollak, James Marks, Debra Schwartz, Jeremy Friedman, Rebecca Koblick, Anna Huttenlocher, Robert Taverbach, Lothair Eaton, Harry Gray, David Sinaiko, Danny Rochman, Kirsten Engel, Steve Kellam, Sharon Wilson.

Production directors are as follows:

Assistant director, Susanne Fritzsche; stage manager, Anne Weiner, 1st assistant stage manager, Joseph Zak; 2nd assistant stage manager, Alex Stephano; prompter, Jacqueline Katz; theater manager, Anne Weiner; set crew head, Steve Stephano; lights crew coheads, Deb Azrael and Kristin Skinner; publicity crew coheads, Chris Maddi and Tzu-fen Liao; costumes crew head, Allison Kimball; makeup crew coheads, Becca Hozinsky and Liz Butler.

New group plans student guidebook

Student Union, a group interested in involving more students with U-High and the community, has been organized by Seniors Jessica DeGroot and Sarah Rosett.

"We want to write a student guide to U-High and Hyde Park, describing restaurants and bookstores in the area, for instance," Jessica explained. "We're also interested in planning activities such as softball games."

Student Union is the second student action group formed by U-Highers in recent months. Students for a Better Environment, last year known as Students for Change, is planning to

distribute a newsletter to students and parents about school issues which it considers important, paint murals in the cafeteria and organize a daylong music festival this spring, according to Sophomore Susanne Fritzsche, one of the initial organizers of the group.

Both Jessica and Susanne felt that the school would benefit from having more than one student action group. "There's a limit to what student government or administrators can do in the school," Jessica said. "The more alternative groups, the greater the number of people involved and able to do things which other groups haven't gotten around to."



THE NEW MIXES with the old as U-High's three new teachers whimsically try out the antique car in "Yesterday's Main Street" at the Museum of Science and Industry. The newcomers are, from left, Phys Ed Teachers Christel Nicholls and Steve Kollross and Social Studies Teacher Susan Shapiro.

Three new teachers join faculty; veteran teacher decides to leave

Expressing enthusiasm, 3 new teachers have joined the faculty this year. They are Social Studies Teacher Susan Shapiro and Physical Education Teachers Steve Kollross and Christel Nicholls. He is coaching frosh-soph basketball and boys' tennis. She is coaching the tennis team and is the mother of freshman Heidi Nicholls.

Math teacher Margaret Matchett and English teacher Jane Curry, who taught in the Middle School last year, now are teaching High School classes.

One teacher and one administrator who had planned to return this year decided not to during the summer.

Unified Arts Department chairperson Robert Erickson, who taught here for 33 years, decided he should not return for personal reasons. His plans are indefinite. About being away from U-High, Mr. Erickson said, "I miss the people, atmosphere and in particular the students."

Coming to U-High in 1945, Mr. Erickson taught painting, photography, drawing and numerous other areas of the arts. He also taught music at one time and advised U-Highlights. Among his hobbies are inventing and repairing musical instruments and designing toys for Creative Playthings, a firm in New York City.

Mr. Erickson studied and taught at the Chicago School of Design from 1943 to 1946. His personal documents, art work and his book, "A Child Sees," written in 1946, will be displayed in the Bauhaus Archives, a museum to be opened in West Berlin. The Chicago School of Design was considered a close counterpart of the original Bauhaus Art School in Berlin, closed in 1933 by the Nazi party. A former Bauhaus teacher later founded the Chicago School of Design.

Mr. Conway, who was to serve as assistant to both the director and new Lower and Middle Schools principal this year, left last month. After 15 years as an administrator and 23 years at the Lab Schools, he was asked to leave last year. Because Mr. Conway had to complete a 2-year contract, through June, 1979, to receive medical and retirement benefits, he had originally planned to stay until then. The University, however, agreed to give him the benefits without his returning, he said.

Social studies teacher Edgar Bernstein, who is working at a teacher center on 53rd street, is on leave of absence.

Appointed the end of last year, Dr. Lorraine LaVigne is the new principal of the Lower and Middle Schools. She previously served as superintendent of a school district in Addison and principal of Disney Magnet School in Chicago.

New staff members include Ms. Monica Hough, '76 graduate, attendance secretary; Ms. Pat Morris, Social Studies and Unified Arts Departments secretary; and Ms. Alice Thompson, secretary in the main Lab Schools office in Blaine Hall.

Debate team still without a coach

Candidates for the position of debate team coach are being interviewed by Principal Geoff Jones. As of Midway deadline Mr. Jones had not found a coach. He said, however, "I'm looking and will find one."

Social Studies Department chairperson Earl Bell, former coach, quit the team at the end of last season for what he said were personal reasons.

At an organizational meeting Sept. 25 called by varsity debater Ben Roberts, 4 prospective debaters showed up. Ben added, however, that at least 6 other students say they plan to debate. Approximately 12 debaters were on the team last year.

At a debate tournament this summer sponsored by the Georgetown Forensic Institute in Washington, D.C., Ben and his partner placed 2nd out of about 50 teams. Ben also received an award for 8th best speaker out of about 100 debaters.

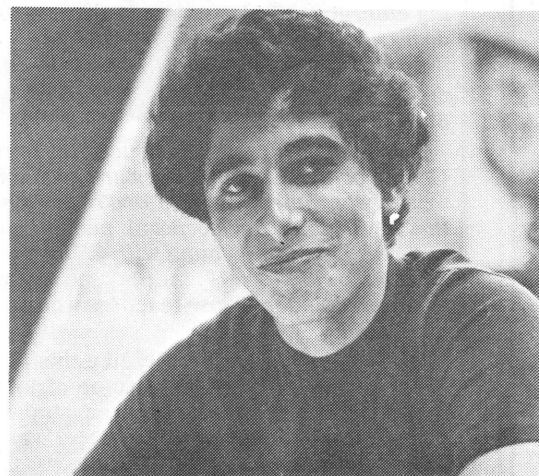


Photo by James Marks

VARSITY DEBATER Ben Roberts has been on the debate team all 4 years at U-High. In a recent debate tournament at the Georgetown Forensic Institute, in Washington, D.C., Ben placed 8th out of about 100 speakers.

List offers ideas for cleaner school

"Everybody, not just a few people, ought to police our halls for litterers" reads the first of 10 suggestions compiled by social studies teacher Joel Sural for improving the physical environment of the school.

The list, distributed to teachers last June and again during Planning Week this fall, was one result of a committee on school environment organized by the faculty's Steering Committee last year.

As a member of the committee, Mr. Sural agreed to compile the list. According to English teacher Hal

Hoffenkamp, this year's Steering Committee chairperson, it is now subject to discussion at further meetings regarding if and how to enforce the suggestions.

The 9 other suggestions also recommend how people can help keep the school clean.

Concerning the idea of enforcing the suggestions, Mr. Sural said, "I don't see how you can. It has to be something that each person cares about if there's to be a change."

Roundup

•When is the yearbook going to arrive?

"I've been asking the same thing," says 1978 U-Highlights Editor-in-Chief Jim Reginato. "We met our deadlines in June, but this summer the printing plant in Charlotte, N.C. suffered severe storm damage and production was held up two months. Then our correction instructions were lost in the mail. We're hoping to have the book by the end of the month, but there's no guarantee we will."

•School honors three new Master Teachers

Three new Master Teachers were named at a ceremony followed by a reception during the faculty's Planning Week. They are biology teacher Murray Hozinsky, French teacher Etienne Pilet and Lower School teacher Anne Wheeler. The honor, highest awarded faculty members, recognizes achievements in the field of education both in and outside the school. By year they were named, previous Master Teachers are as follows:

1970 — Ms. Eunice McGuire, English; Ms. Alice Flickinger, Middle School social studies (retired); Mr. Raymond Lubway, Lower School; 1971 — Ms. Louise Pliss, Lower School (retired); Ms. Isabel McCaul, Lower and Middle School librarian (retired); Mr. Bryan Swan, physics (retired); Mr. William Zarvis, phys ed (retired); 1972 — Ms. Blanche Janecek, High School librarian (retired); Mr. Robert Erickson, Unified Arts (see story this page); Ms. Mary Johnson, Lower School (retired); 1973 — Ms. Margaret Matchett, math; Ms. Barbara Wehr, Lower and Middle School science; 1974 — Mr. Ernest Poll, science; Mr. Wayne Brasler, journalism; Mr. Gregor Heggen, German; 1975 — Ms. Ellen Thomas, reading consultant; 1977 — Ms. Alice Moses, Lower School science.

•School working to tighten security

Security is being tightened following the thefts this summer of items including typewriters, lumber, hoses and sprinklers. Principal Geoff Jones said an alarm system has been installed in Belfield Hall and another may be placed in U-High. Campus Security officers are checking the buildings more often and unsupervised students are being told to leave the building at 4:30 p.m.

•Snack Bar may offer tummy warmers

Hot soup and sandwiches may be available at the Snack Bar by January, according to principal Geoff Jones. The Snack Bar is being moved to the cafeteria kitchen to enable hot food service. Renovations made over this summer at U-High included cleaning of floors, windows, window sills, desks and air conditioning ducts; and painting of the east stairwell, Publications Office and cafeteria.

•Seniors find just another locker

Lockers have been assigned alphabetically this year, a disappointment to seniors who would have received the large lockers on the second floor. Principal Geoff Jones said the change is intended to improve behavior by integrating upperclassmen and underclassmen. Incidentally, Mr. Jones noted, there weren't enough of those large lockers to accommodate all the seniors anyway.

•Freshmen elect class officers

Freshmen have elected their class officers as follows: President, Lothair Eaton; vice president, Paul Montes; secretary, Beverly Berkley; treasurer, Adrienne Collins; Student Legislative Coordinating Council representatives, Aaron Gerow and Michael Zellner; Cultural Union representatives, Carla Williams and Lisa Moragne; Student Board representatives, Andrew Vesselinovitch and Joseph Zak.

•And now, your first handbook quiz question

What U-High teacher gave his classes a quiz on the new student handbook? English teacher Hal Hoffenkamp, that's who. He "wanted to make sure they took it seriously." And he was pleased with the results. Student activities director Don Jacques, who compiled the handbook over the summer, said reactions have been favorable.

•Just for the record, music lovers

The library's record players are back, sort of. They're now in music rooms in Belfield and Blaine halls, available when classes are not scheduled there. U-Highers who want to use them must ask a music teacher for a headset.

•While Cinderella stays at home?

Stepsisters Deb Azrael and Alex Garbers are editors-in-chief, respectively, of the fall quarter Midway and U-Highlights this year. Other U-Highlights editors are Linda Pardo, managing editor; Liz Altman, production assistant; Karin Weaver, copy editor; and Helen Straus, design editor. Other Midway editors are listed in the masthead on page 4. The editors were named at a publications party last June at Riccardo's restaurant on the Near North side.

•Tooting our own horn department

Highest rating, Medalist, has been awarded to the Midway by the Columbia (University, N.Y.) Scholastic Press Association for issues published in 1977. No more than 10 per cent of the 1,000 papers judged are awarded the rating. The Midway also received CSP's All-Columbian award for excellence in four specific areas: news, editorials, investigative reporting and advertising. Judges praised ads produced by ad manager David Quigley as probably the best in the nation. David's ads are featured in an article in the September issue of Scholastic Editor magazine.

•300 turn out for Open House

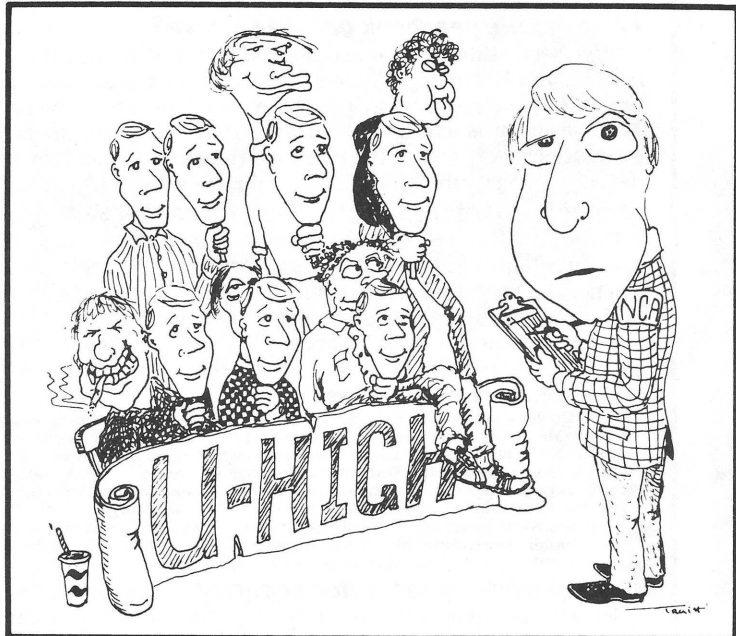
About 300 parents flocked through U-High's halls at Open House Sunday. Parents followed their children's schedules, attending 10-minute classes in which teachers gave presentations about their courses and answered questions. While parents visited, students in drama and journalism worked on their respective productions.

10:59 p.m. You've got a plot test tomorrow for English. But you still haven't read the book. In fact, you don't even own it. The library is closed. Maybe we can help. We're open until 11 p.m. every night. A word of advice, though. Do yourself a favor and don't wait 'til that last minute.

Powell's Bookstore

1503 E. 57th St.
955-7780

As the Midway sees it



Art by Craig Truitt

WHAT A BUNCH OF CLONES!

• The visit

Evaluators must see U-High as it is

A team of educators will visit U-High on behalf of the North Central Association (NCA) in two weeks, Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 (see story page 8). Before making their report, the evaluators will compare their experiences at, and reactions to, U-High with self-evaluations prepared by administrators, faculty members, students and parents working through numerous committees last year.

Principal Geoff Jones talked about the importance of the evaluators seeing U-High as it typically is. "The notion is that while the evaluators are here the school should be functioning just as it normally would," Mr. Jones said. "We want to be honest and candid about U-High's problems and strengths."

Without the normalcy that Mr. Jones urges, the evaluators can't succeed in their purpose, to give the school recommendations on how to improve. If the evaluators don't see the school on which the self-evaluations were based, the NCA's recommendations won't have any relevance to U-High.

• About us

New look doesn't change purpose

The Midway looks different this year. We've rearranged and departmentalized content and we're trying for a brighter, more appealing presentation.

But how the Midway looks is not what's important. It's why the Midway exists at all.

Our goal is simple. We want to provide news about the events, issues and people that make up U-High. We also want to provide a place for people to express their opinions and to react to what we've published.

Your opinions on any subject are welcome either in the form of letters or in contributions to our guest column, "First Person." Three things, though, about the letters: Please keep them brief, sign them and bring them to the Publications Office (U-High 6) by the Friday after the Midway comes out.

Accuracy, as always, is one of our major concerns. Reporters have been instructed to check back quotes and facts after interviews and, if possible, again before the story goes into print. We take every precaution we can to prevent errors from appearing in the Midway. But, if an error does appear, we'll correct it in the following issue.

Whether or not you like the Midway is not as important as whether you read it. Our job is not to make you happy necessarily, but to inform you. Even if you hate us for doing it.

u-high midway

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EXECUTIVE EDITORS AND MANAGERS—EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, Deb Azrael; MANAGING EDITOR, Matt Gerow; BUSINESS MANAGER, John Mullan; ADVERTISING MANAGER, David Quigley; DESIGN EDITOR, James Marks.

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PHOTOGRAPHERS—James Marks, Jim Reginato, David Yufit, Brian Boyd, Connie Lofton, Paul Montes, Chris Newcomb, Seth Sulkin, Pete Zundel.

ARTISTS—Craig Truitt, John Skosey, Chris Maddi.

Some know about, few care about, behavior code

By James Marks

Some knew, some didn't. Some cared, most didn't. About half of 30 U-Highers interviewed randomly about the behavior code which went into effect this fall knew of it, but only 2 knew what the code said. After the code was explained to them, most said they weren't affected by it and none felt it would change student behavior.

The new code, compiled last year by a committee on school environment consisting of 7 faculty members and 2 students, and then endorsed by the faculty and administrators, was published in the new student handbook this fall. The code separates offenses into four categories: "Extreme," including drug sales; "severe," such as drug use or drinking; "serious," such as cheating and disrespect for a teacher; and "minor," including smoking. The first three categories are punished by suspensions and, in some cases, expulsion. The last is handled by Student Board.

"Those are the old rules, aren't they?" commented Dean Resnekov after the code was explained to him. "Besides, I act the same, rules or no rules, and if other people don't have any standards, it doesn't offend me."

Freshman Alex Stephano said, "It doesn't change things now that I know. I never break any serious rules and whoever stops you on minor ones?"

A few people wondered if teachers would be stricter in handling cheating and disrespect now that penalties for them are specific.

Science teacher Judith Keane said she felt teachers wouldn't be stricter. "Whenever there's a new code for something, some instances of strict interpretation will always turn up," she explained. "I think we'll find, however, that most teachers have their own standards that are unaffected by a new behavior code. I know I do."

Learning from history OR It's not as bad as you think

It's spring of 1978. In the halls of U-High hundreds of class-cutting students are screaming obscenities while ripping apart lockers, breaking windows and writing on the walls.

After clearing away some of their food containers and Jack Daniels bottles from the floor, SLCC and Student Board members begin a game of craps.

Blood-curdling screams, flying chairs and hysterical crying girls wearing only shreds of clothing emerge from the now twisted and splintered doors of Rowley Library.

In the nearly empty classrooms, those students who aren't too stoned to cheat are looking at each other's tests.

Lab Schools director R. Bruce McPherson and U-High principal Geoff Jones are locked in a luxuriously carpeted, smoke-filled room, discussing the new plans for corporal punishment. One cork-covered wall is hung with pictures of every member of the faculty. McPherson throws darts over his shoulder. Those teachers who are hit are dismissed.

Obviously, it wasn't really like this.

But, if you had talked to some of last year's hysterical parents, teachers or students, you might have believed that the school was coming apart at the seams.

Were these problems any worse last year than they had ever been before? Probably not. In fact, vandalism, drug use, poor attendance, plagiarism and nonattendance at student government meetings have been issues in this school for years and have been reported in the Midway as far back as 1968.

The U-High method for dealing with such problems is predictable:

- Faculty, parents and-or administrators become worried. Someone writes a memo.
- The Midway reports the story.
- Faculty, administrators and parents become even more worried. The problem is discussed and possibly even exaggerated.

Next, committees are established. This seems to be the U-High method for solving problems. Faculty committees, joint faculty-administration and student-faculty committees are always in vogue. (All-school assemblies and departmental meetings are also popular.)

The major disciplinary problems at U-High

Fear and

A bearded intellectual in lipstick discusses the phenomenon. "It's kind of like a pagan passion play, or maybe more like a Greek tragedy. It purges you, cleanses you, lets you get out your kinky energy." Anything else? "Yeah, it's a good place to meet people."

Saturday nights, all across the nation, thousands of people sit in movie theaters, passively absorbing entertainment. But in selected theaters, in major cities and college towns, a bizarre assortment of intentionally and unintentionally costumed people are participating in cinema.

Here in Chicago, at the Biograph Theater, every Friday and Saturday night, people wait in line for hours to see (and participate in) "The



First Person

By Adam Simon,
Guest columnist

Rocky Horror Picture Show." After opening a few years ago to poor reviews, this film version of a successful London musical was yanked from distribution. Rediscovered by the gay communities of New York, San Francisco and Houston (after all, dressing in drag isn't new to them), it quickly became a cult classic.

The film itself is the inane story of a "normal" couple, Brad and Janet, and their adventures in the castle of a transvestite alien, Dr. Frank N. Furter. But the main appeal of the movie is the members of the audience, who respond to the dialog, throw props and dress like characters in the film.

After turning onto Lincoln Ave. 11:30 on a recent Saturday night, the Midway's photographer and I were faced with the awesome sight of an intersection choked with cars and a sidewalk lined with people garbed in costumes ranging from tuxedo jackets and fishnet stockings to leather and feathers.

Penny Dreadfuls

By Jonathan Silverman,
Midway columnist



approximately 50 U-Highers could be found gambling for money around the school at various times.

I'm not suggesting that problems such as poor attendance and drug use are not important issues that merit concern. It is, however, probably wishful thinking to believe that the school can do anything to permanently improve the situation.

Problems like gambling, drugs and student apathy are not problems that can be solved by a school alone. A student's upbringing and the society in which he or she lives all influence behavior and attitudes much more than a high school ever can.

Perhaps it would help, however, if people would remember these issues more than once every 5 years, if they would keep a level-headed attitude when they do come up, and if they followed through on proposed solutions.

So, next time you hear that a teacher has been fired; there's a newer, stricter attendance policy; the school is filled with garbage; students are getting high during lunch; hundreds of books are missing from the library; some people cheated on the math test; or there's a game of high stakes backgammon being played on the third floor, you can be reasonably sure that it's true.

Just stay calm and don't worry. Someone just wrote a memo.

oathing at a horror show

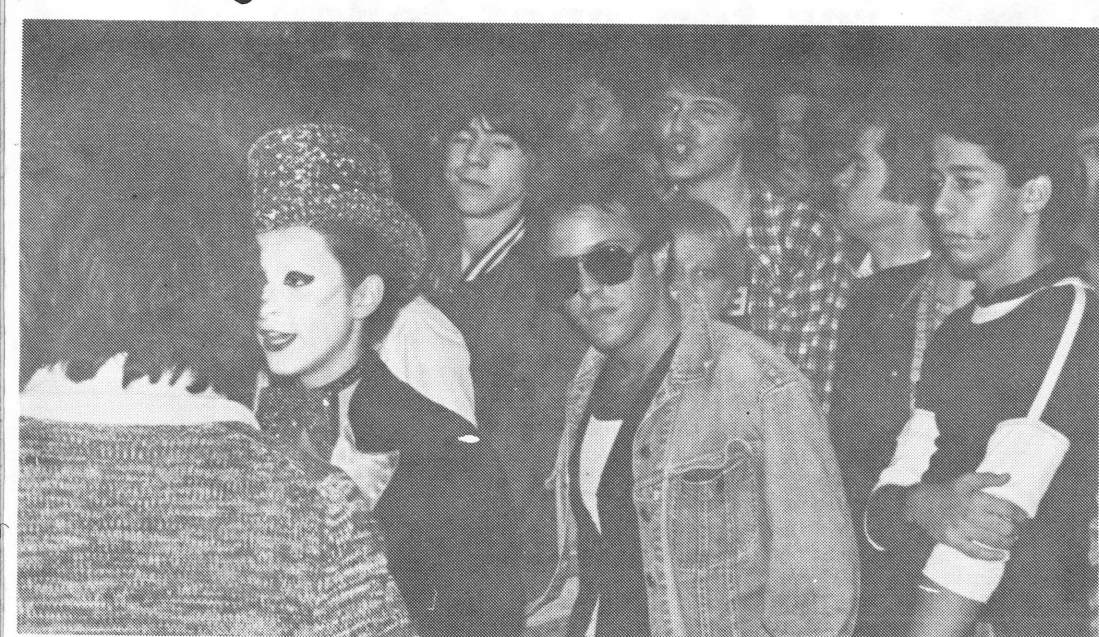


Photo by James Marks

ONE TUXEDO-CLAD woman dressed as a character from "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" in whiteface makeup, a man behind sun-

glasses, and another man with a safety pin stuck through his cheek are among fans of the film waiting in line at the Biograph Theater.

We took a deep breath and crossed the street. Outside the theater the film score blared from speakers atop a Chevy roof. When the film's wedding song came on, rice filled the air. The photographer yelled, "Dammit, I'm tired of getting rice thrown at me."

Toast is another prop the audience often throws. In line outside, a glum man, who hadn't wanted to come, but whose friends had forced him to, was eating his toast. "Aren't you going to throw it?" I asked. "Nope, it's a waste," he replied. True. "Want some toast?"

The rice-strewn photographer tried to take a picture of a man with a safety pin through his cheek. The man threatened to tie the photographer up and throw him in the lake.

My sharp eye for detail spotted a man with a large silver antennae. "Why are you wearing antennae?" I asked. "Get lost," he answered, missing his chance for fame.

In a cynically academic way I wondered if these weren't grotesque people trying to disguise the fact that they were grotesque people by dressing up as grotesque people.

Suddenly, as if by magic, the line was gone at the witching hour. But not so magically, the evidence remained. Beer cans, rice and toast lined the street.

Looking spiritually and physically beaten, our photographer stumbled toward his car. "Let's get out of here," he said.

Right.



Photo courtesy of United Artists Corporation

EACH DEEP in thought, three sisters portrayed by Diane Keaton, Kristin Griffith and

Marybeth Hurt gaze out the window of their beachfront house in Woody Allen's "Interiors."

A serious Woody Allen film

"Interiors," Woody Allen's latest film, now showing at the Water Tower Theater, is hardly what one would expect from a man who United Artists Pictures labels "today's foremost comic genius." Allen himself described the movie as "a drama in the traditional sense."

"Interiors" centers around a few weeks in the life of a troubled, rich WASP family in Long Island, N.Y.

Using the family for illustration, Allen points out that some people have a lifestyle that is too structured to allow for change. He concludes that only those people who can change their lives can find happiness.

The father (played by E.G. Marshall) is an example of a person who changes his life to solve his troubles. After many years of marriage, he divorces his mentally ill wife and marries a woman (Maureen Stapleton) who is full of vitality and life.

The father's 3 daughters (Kristin Griffith, Diane Keaton and Marybeth Hurt) aren't able to solve their problems. Each has a career in the arts and is greatly dissatisfied with it in some way. But instead of making a choice to leave the arts, they remain, as do their problems.

Because of the troubled characters and their ever-present mental anguish the viewer gets a sense of lifelessness throughout the entire first half

of the film.

Allen intensifies this feeling by setting the first half of the film in a huge, sparsely furnished frame house on the seemingly vacant Long Island coast, and by using pale earthtones and pastels for much of the characters' clothing and the setting.

It is only in the second half of the film, when we see Maureen Stapleton, the father's new romantic interest, that there is an input of color and life into

Positively Critical

By John Mullan,
Midway critic



the film. Stapleton dresses brightly, loves jazz records and enjoys life. She's wonderful as a person who will try to change anything in order to be happy.

My feeling is that Woody Allen has been extremely successful writing and directing his first drama. I would not, however, recommend this film to anyone who wants light entertainment. To fully appreciate the film I had to constantly analyze the characters and their actions. You may have to also.

•TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

FIELD HOCKEY, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., here.
TENNIS, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., here.
SOCCER, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., there.
CROSS COUNTRY, King, Mt. Carmel, 4 p.m., Jackson Park

•THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

SOCCER, St. Laurence, 4 p.m., here.

•FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

FIELD HOCKEY (varsity only), Morgan Park, 4 p.m., here.
TENNIS, Morgan Park, 4 p.m., here.
JOHN DEWEY'S BIRTHDAY. Happy 119th to a founding father.

•SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

SOCCER, Oak Park, time to be announced, there.

•MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

SOCCER, sectionals, time and place to be announced.

•TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

CROSS COUNTRY, Weber, St. Benedict, Quigley North, 4 p.m., Lincoln Park.

•FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

COSTUME SALE, after school, Belfield Theater. Halloween costumes will be included. Proceeds go to the theater's costumes department.

•SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

CROSS COUNTRY, state district meet, time and date to be announced.

•TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST sponsored by Cultural Union, 12:30 p.m., cafeteria.

•MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

FACULTY AND STAFF YEARBOOK PHOTOS, Assembly Room.

•TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 — THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

SENIOR YEARBOOK PHOTOS, Assembly Room.

•FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

SADIE HAWKINS DANCE, 7:30 - 11 p.m., cafeteria.

•FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10 — MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

UNDERCLASS YEARBOOK PHOTOS, Assembly Room.

•TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

MIDWAY OUT after school.

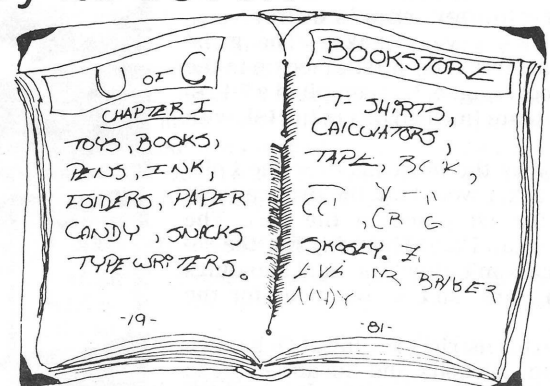
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ONE STEP AHEAD of his Latin opponent, frosh-soph soccer player Craig Haynes charges the ball in a 4-1 victory Friday there.

Photo by Chris Newcomb

Soccer varsity could end 2nd; frosh-soph should keep crown

By Richard Letchinger, sports editor

Rounding out regular season play with 3 away games, the varsity soccer team is preparing for sectional play beginning Monday. Sectionals represent the first round in competition for the state championship.

A win against the Francis Parker Colonels today, there, would clinch a 2nd place finish for the Maroons in the Independent School League (ISL). With a 5-2 league record (5-4-1 overall) the Maroons will have to settle for a 2nd-place finish because of 2 losses to the Caxymen of Lake Forest.

"I can't believe it," said cocaptain Hosain Lipson after the Maroons' 1-0 loss to the Caxymen, Oct. 6, here. "There were scoring opportunities, but the offensive line just couldn't take advantage of them."

Fellow cocaptain and forward David Light felt similarly, saying, "We made mistakes, but when you haven't played with the same people regularly, it's hard to work well together." Because of injuries, and because coach Sandy Patlak has been trying to find the right combination of players, the team has had no set forward line.

Despite some mistakes, the Maroons have won more often than they've lost. "As for the games we won," said goalie Josh Mayers, "I am of course happy but I don't think that the other competition in the ISL is all that strong."

With a win today against Parker, the frosh-soph squad could go undefeated in the ISL, and win the

championship for the 8th straight year. The squad's defeats have come in nonleague games against Illiana Christian, Quigley South and Homewood-Flossmoor. The Maroons have posted a 7-0 league record (7-3 overall).

"The competition in the ISL isn't as good as the competition out of it," noted forward Josh Hyman, explaining the team's victories in only league games.

Coach Larry McFarlane agreed, attributing all the league victories to "the lack of true competition in the frosh-soph ISL." McFarlane said the team has the "necessary skills to win these games." But he added that the team "hasn't developed a winning attitude yet. When they are down they just aren't able to come back and win."

Here's a quick look at why the Maroons are where they are, with U-High score first, frosh-soph in parenthesis:

LAKE FOREST, Sept. 19, there, 2-3 (3-1). John Naisbitt scored twice on penalty kicks.

NORTH SHORE, Sept. 22, there, 10-0 (11-1). Coach McFarlane was forced to referee the game when the assigned referee failed to show up. David Trosman scored a hat trick for the varsity.

LATIN, Sept. 26, here, 4-1 (1-0). The frosh-soph game was forfeited by Latin.

PARKER, Sept. 29, here, 6-0 (6-3). William McKeever scored 2 goals for the varsity squad.

ILLIANA CHRISTIAN, Sept. 30, there, 2-2 (1-3). The Maroons came back from a 2-0 halftime deficit. The game went into 2 5-minute overtime periods.

QUIGLEY SOUTH, Oct. 3, there, 1-3 (0-4).

LAKE FOREST, Oct. 6, here, 0-1 (4-1).

HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR, Oct. 9, there, 0-2 (0-1).

NORTH SHORE, Oct. 10, here, 8-2 (11-0).

LATIN, Oct. 13, there, 3-1 (4-1).

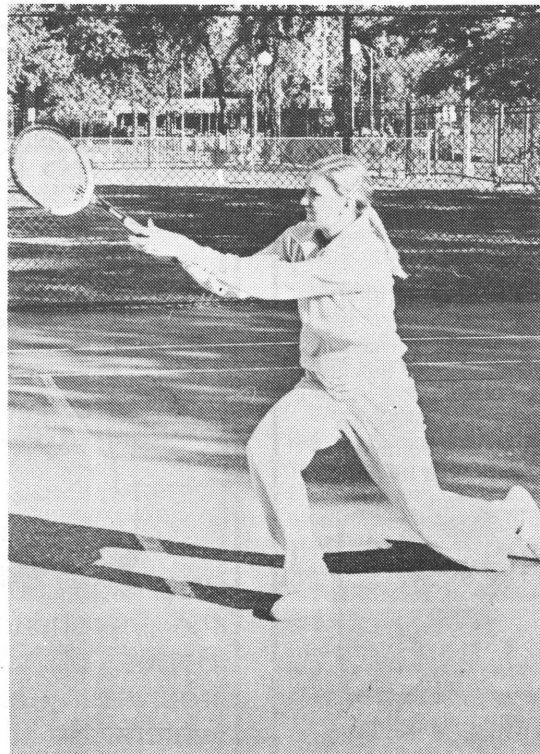


Photo by Seth Sulkin

THERE WAS no bad luck for the tennis team Fri., Oct. 13 as the Maroons played their way to a 5-0 victory over Latin. Here Susan Goldfarb volleys with a Latin opponent.

Hockey squads aim for top spot today

By David Hyman, sports editor

A win today over Francis Parker will clinch 1st place in the Independent School League (ISL) for both the varsity and frosh-soph field hockey teams. Before going on to sectionals, the varsity faces Morgan Park, not a threat to the title, Thursday here.

The varsity has compiled a 7-0 record, but cocaptain Suzanne Tarlov said, "Even though we're winning, I'm not sure that everyone is confident of playing their positions yet. Like what happened at North Shore (Sept. 22, here). A goal was scored on us because we were out of position."

Other cocaptains are Diana Hruban and Anne Fitchen.

Passing, scooping and ball control are among the team's strengths, according to thruster Sally Newcomb. "We have been concentrating more on plays and tactics like corner shots than improving these basic skills," she added. "For example, Lake Forest lost by a goal that was scored by a corner."

Only threat to U-High's 26-member frosh-soph squad in its final game today is that the Colonels could break the Maroons' record of 5 wins and no losses plus no goals scored on them.

Despite the fact there are 26 players but only 11 positions in the lineup, competition for positions has not proved a problem moralwise for the Maroons. "There is hardly any verbal criticism of teammates," said player Ginny Burks.

Results of games played so far, U-High score first, frosh-soph in parenthesis, are as follows:

LAKE FOREST, Sept. 19, here, 4-1. Varsity came back in the 2nd half and scored 3 goals.

NORTH SHORE, Sept. 22, here, 3-1 (6-0).

MORGAN PARK, Sept. 25, there, 3-1.

LATIN, Sept. 28, there, 7-4 (2-0). At the end of regulation play in the varsity game, the score was 1-1. U-High won by penalty shots. Players considered the game the most exciting of the season.

FRANCIS PARKER, Sept. 29, there, 2-1 (2-0).

NORTH SHORE, Oct. 3, there 2-1 (1-0).

LAKE FOREST, Oct. 6, there, 1-0.

LATIN, Oct. 13, here, 1-0 (1-0).

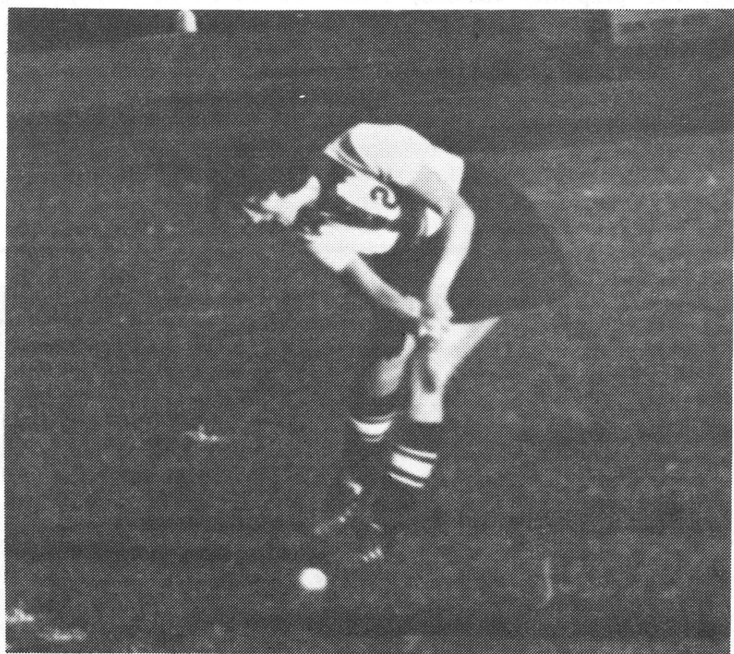


Photo by Connie Lofton

A DETERMINED Suzanne Tarlov prepares to drive the ball down the sidelines in the girls' field hockey team's 1-0 victory over Latin Friday there.

Victory will give tennis gals title

By Richard Letchinger, sports editor

What a difference a year makes. The girls' tennis team, in contention for a 1st-place tie in the Independent School League, has compiled a 7-1 record. Last year's team finished last in the ISL with a 5-4 record.

A victory today by the Maroons over the Colonels of Francis Parker would put the two teams in a finishing tie for 1st place in the ISL. The Maroons face Morgan Park Thursday but the results of that match won't affect the final standings because Morgan Park isn't a contender for the title.

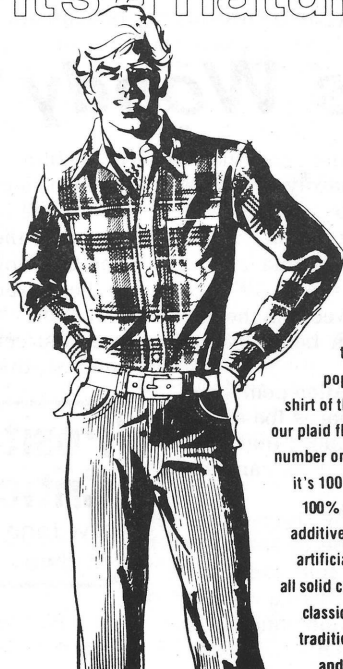
The Maroons go to Districts Friday at Oak Lawn High School. Heidi Nicholls and Susan Goldfarb will play singles. Because neither played high school tennis before this year, they could be ranked low on the meet's ladder. Coach Christel Nicholls said she will try at the coaches' meeting tomorrow to get the two U-Highers seated as high as possible.

Also going to Districts are the doubles teams of Karen Baca and Denisse Goldfarb, and Randee Kallish and Rhonda Gans.

Results of meets so far, U-High score first, are as follows:

LAKE FOREST, Sept. 19, here, 4-1; North Shore, Sept. 22, here, 4-1; Morgan Park, Sept. 25, there, 4-1; Latin, Sept. 28, there, 4-1; Parker, Sept. 29, there, 1-4; North Shore, Oct. 3, there, 5-0; Lake Forest, Oct. 6, there, 5-0; Latin, Oct. 13, here, 5-0.

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Three sports being dropped

By Richard Letchinger, sports editor

Three team sports—indoor track, girls' softball and boys' baseball—are not being offered this year because of a budget cut resulting in 1 less phys ed teacher.

The indoor track team was dropped because of a decision by principal Geoff Jones. The girls' softball and boys' baseball teams have been dropped because there is no one to coach them according to Mr. Tom Tourlas, last year's boys' baseball coach. "At this time there are no plans being made to bring back either of these teams," Mr. Tourlas said.

Mr. Jones made his decision to drop indoor track after talking to track coach Ron Drozd. Mr. Drozd, who had been volunteering his time to coach all 3 track teams—indoor, outdoor, cross country—for the past 6 years, asked to be released for a 3rd sport this year.

Mr. Jones told the Midway that "the budget didn't allow for released time for 3 sports" and that Mr. Drozd could only be released for 2 sports.

Released time is a scheduling process whereby each phys ed teacher teaches an equal number of classes and all are expected to coach 2 teams.

Mr. Drozd wanted to drop cross country, but Mr. Jones told him to drop indoor track instead so that boys were offered a fall sport besides soccer. Indoor track was run in the winter, when basketball and swimming also are offered.

The cross country squad is technically not being recognized as a team this year by the Illinois High School Association. Mr. Drozd told the Midway, because the team of 3 boys and 1 girl doesn't meet the required minimum of 5 members. As a result, no points are being kept for the runners as a team. Each runner has been running in meets for personal achievement.

At a meet Oct. 3 in Jackson Park against Taft, King and Phillips high schools, varsity runners Dan Rochman and Thomas Fritzsche finished 98th and 122nd out of a field of 160. Frosh-soph runners Andy Goodman and Cathy White finished 11th and 158th out of 192.

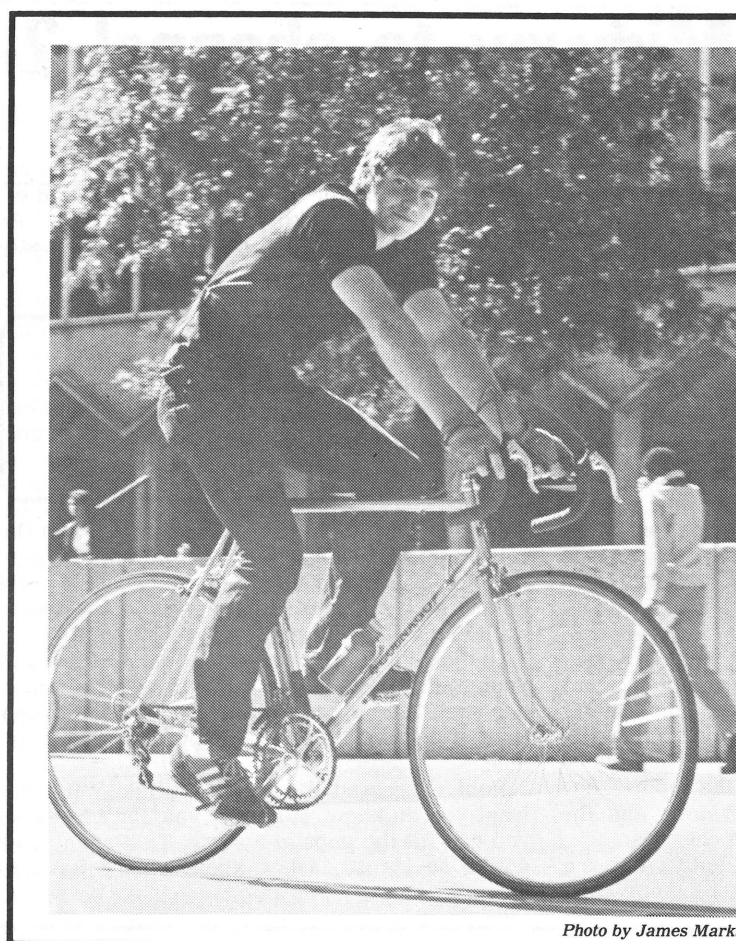


Photo by James Marks

Ultimate bicycle

FOR several years, Chris Fitchen envisioned a bicycle which would be "the ultimate ride." Last summer he built such a bike, one worth almost \$1,400.

"Even when I had my old bike," Chris said, "I loved to ride. Sometimes 50 to 60 miles, depending on the day. So, because I was interested and rode so much, I decided to get the ultimate ride."

With his earnings for a month from his job at a Hyde Park bike shop, Chris bought a \$380 famous-brand (Colnago) bike frame. After the frame he "just added the finest possible parts until it was completed. Now, with my new bike, riding is incredibly more enjoyable."

Chris hopes to compete in races at Aurora and in Wisconsin on his "ultimate ride."

Phys ed classes get new kind of lineup

U-Highers aren't going to get as much out of some of their phys ed classes this year as they did last year. That's because the classes are larger. Administrators, as an economic move, have reduced the number of teachers in the Phys Ed Department.

Five phys ed classes instead of 6 are being offered during each 6-week unit. Classes, such as gymnastics, which emphasize individual performance, will suffer the most from the resultingly larger classes.

An ideal size for a gymnastics class, according to Phys Ed Department Chairperson Larry McFarlane, would range from 18 students to 24. But one of this year's classes has 39 students in it.

And so the quality of education students get in gymnastics can be expected to lessen. There are problems, too, in classes like volleyball and weight training, which also emphasize individual performance.

Mr. Tom Tourlas, using gymnastics classes as an example, said, "As for the teacher, I now will have less time to spend with each student individually. The organization of the class will also have to be different. Students can no longer move freely from one piece of apparatus to another."

Mr. Tourlas went on to say that the effect on the student would also be great. "The student will have to wait in line longer to get on each piece of equipment and will have less time to practice."

Instant Replay

By Richard Letchinger, Sports columnist



Principal Geoff Jones said he doesn't see any chance the situation will change before next year. "No adjustments will be made during this school year," he said, but added that "we need to look at the situation in the Phys Ed Department."

It's just another case of living with less at U-High. Let's hope we don't have to live with it too long.

GOOD NEWS! As the Midway went to press Mr. Jones said that, after seeing final enrollment figures in phys ed classes, he had changed his mind and planned to add 1/5 of a teacher position to the department.

Individual sports get more phys ed emphasis

Billiards, golf, cycling and jogging are being offered by the Phys Ed Department this year to place more emphasis on individual sports.

"The idea behind the plan," explained Phys Ed Department Chairperson Larry McFarlane, "is that U-Highers should learn sports which they can enjoy for the rest of their lives, unlike sports such as soccer and football, which are too strenuous and hard to organize for people in their later years."

According to Mr. McFarlane, administrators have been suggesting for several years that more individual sports be offered, but it wasn't until this year that the Phys Ed Department was receptive to the idea. Mr. McFarlane added that "this new trend of individual sports is not unique to U-High. Society has been demanding this type of program all over the U.S. for quite some time. We are very late compared to all other schools."

Tennis players go to nationals

Two U-High tennis players, Senior Karen Baca and Freshman Heidi Nicholls, competed in national tournaments this summer.

After placing 2nd in Chicago Park District competition for girls 18 and under, Karen was flown to Arcadia, Calif., to compete in the U. S. Junior National Tennis Championships. She lost her first match.

Also in Park District competition, Junior John Naisbitt placed 3rd among boys 18 and under.

Heidi, after competing independently in about 20 tournaments this summer, sponsored by the U. S. Tennis Association, is awaiting ranking results. Last year she was 2nd in Illinois, 15th in the Western States and about 80th nationally. She

competes in the division for girls 14 and under.

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From the Midway to channel 2

Paul Sagan, '77, is already a t.v. news journalist

It was 40 seconds before airtime when anchorman Walter Jacobson stormed onto the channel 2 news set yelling "Why don't I adlib the whole thing?"

I was at WBBM-TV, the Chicago CBS-TV affiliate, where '77 graduate Paul Sagan is working parttime researching and field producing Focus Reports for anchorman Bill Kurtis.

Paul, a sophomore at Northwestern University in Evanston, became interested in journalism because his father publishes a chain of neighborhood newspapers, including the Hyde Park Herald. Paul was editor-in-chief of the Midway his junior and senior years and won several awards for best story and ad in the nation. In the summer before his senior year he worked as a news intern at the CBS station in Los Angeles.

For May Project, Paul's father arranged an internship for him at channel 2 as an assistant producer on a morning talk show, "It's Worth Knowing." The summer after he graduated from U-High, Paul continued at channel 2 as a news intern, then moved up to researching Focus Reports, depth news features which rely heavily on visuals. He has produced two of the reports, one on the harmful effects of a hormone and the other on senior citizens getting more jobs.

It's a change from the Midway, but Paul sees a connection. "It seems hard to equate doing a na-

tional story for Bill Kurtis and reporting on career counselling for the Guidance Office, but essentially the basic skills remain the same." As for working with adults, rather than fellow stu-

Eyes Saw It
By Joe Williams,
Community editor



dents, he said, "I'm the youngest person in the newsroom and I don't know if that bothers people. Sometimes it's hard for me because I feel almost guilty because I have a job older people want. I think my work justifies it, though."

So did Bill Kurtis, who talked about Paul and young journalists in general. "In a sense, someone such as Paul can absorb instruction easier than if he had years of experience and college."

Paul expressed the same attitude. "It's not what you do know. It's what you don't know so you can fill the gaps of a story. That's why I've gotten so far so fast. I know what I have to learn."

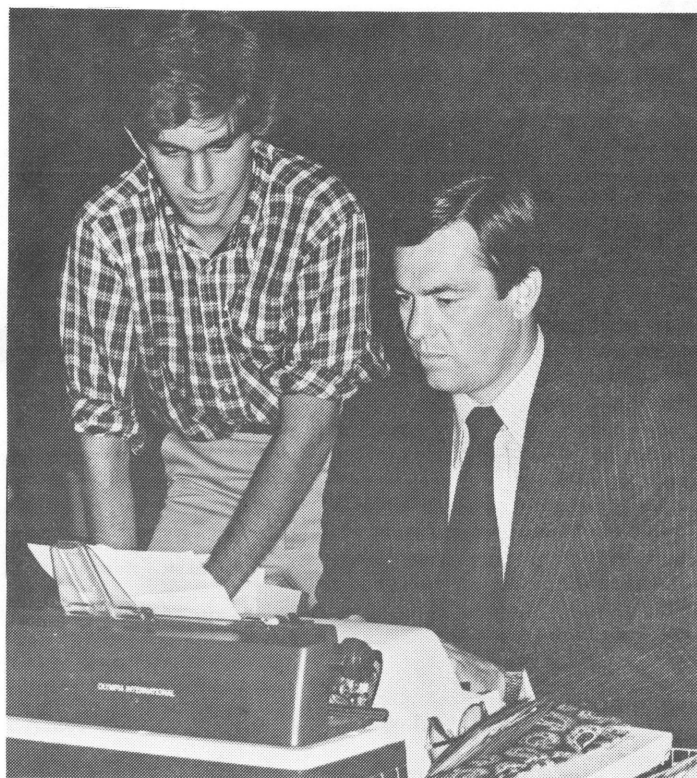


Photo by Jim Reginato

FROM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF of the Midway, Paul Sagan, '77 graduate, has gone on to become an assistant to Channel 2 anchorman Bill Kurtis.

NCA evaluators to visit Oct. 31-Nov. 2

Seventeen educators will visit U-High Tues., Oct. 31 - Thurs., Nov. 2 in the next part of the school's North Central Association (NCA) evaluation.

An accrediting agency of high schools and colleges in the Midwest, the NCA urges member schools to conduct an evaluation every seven years. The evaluation is not related to accreditation.

In the first part of U-High's evaluation, committee reports on the school's philosophy and objectives and its relationship to the community were approved by the faculty. Using these reports for reference and comparison, departments prepared evaluations of their curriculum and committees examined program design, support services, facilities and admin-

istration and staff. Some committees included only faculty; others involved students and, in some cases, parents. A steering committee headed by Math Teacher Patricia Hindman and English Teacher Eunice McGuire organized the evaluation.

Recommended by the faculty and approved by administrators, the visitors will evaluate

how well U-High meets the objectives described in its self-evaluation, copies of which they will receive to study before coming here.

During their three-day visit, the evaluators will visit classes and talk with students and teachers. "Ideally people should act the way they do on normal school days," said principal Geoff Jones.

Evaluators named before the Midway went to the press, by subject areas, are as follows:

English, Mr. Jack Ellison, Roosevelt University; **library**, Mr. Henry DeQuin, Northern Illinois University; **mathematics**, Ms. Sharon Senk, Newton (Mass.) High School; **school activities, all-school projects, assemblies**, Mr. Bart Wolgamot, Francis Parker School; **physical education**, Ms. Marilyn Baldner, Lyons Township High School; **social studies**, Mr. Vernon Young, Deer Creek Junior High School; **Unified Arts**, Mr. Ken Kenny, Homewood-Flossmoor High School; **interscholastic activities**, Mr. Harold Wells, Northern Illinois University; **science**, Mr. Henry Rosenbaum, District 22 Office, Chicago Public Schools; **drama, debate, journalism, publications**, Ms. Mary Scherb, Niles Township High School East; **administration and school staff**, Mr. Karl Gandt, Harwood Heights School; **reading center, guidance and counseling**, Ms. Marna Shapiro, Waller High School; **program**, Ms. Pat Daly, Edsel Ford High School, Dearborn Michigan and Ms. Joyce Epstein, Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Ray VerVelde, an NCA official, will act as chairperson.

Report cites areas for improvement

Four areas of concern are cited in the report of the Program Committee for the North Central Association (NCA) evaluation approved by the faculty near the end of school in June.

The four areas are the budgeting process, morale and discipline, communication in the school "on all levels" and "the evident lack of a total, integrated school program, reflecting our values, that has room to consider the individual student in a thoughtful way."

According to the report, "The need for budget cuts is recognized by all," but the manner in which budget decisions are made have a "detrimental effect on the program at U-High." The report cited the lack of information given to the faculty on specific allocations of money in the Laboratory Schools' budget, lack of specific rationales for budget cuts and "insufficient faculty input regarding where and when the program must be cut to meet the reduced budget."

Among examples of detrimental budget cuts the report cites is elimination of the position of dean of students in 1975. The report states that since this cut was made the school has experienced a decrease in the "effectiveness of attendance procedures, an increase in vandalism, and disrespect and rudeness on the part of the students." A dean of students, the committee said, is "a necessity, if not as a separate position, then as part of the principal's or faculty's responsibilities."

Concerning morale and discipline, the report said, "It must be emphasized that some of the discipline problems stem from the very flexibility, the casual informal atmosphere, the value from the individual, that are the great strengths of the school."

Possible solutions recommended by the committee include enforcing rules consistently and predictably; clarifying expectations of behavior and sanctions; more faculty presence at Student Board meetings or a joint student-faculty board; a supervised student lounge; greater visibility of administrators; a faculty advisory system to "forestall serious disciplinary problems;" and a more even distribution of the number of students with free periods at any one time.

Concerning the inefficiency of communication between faculty,

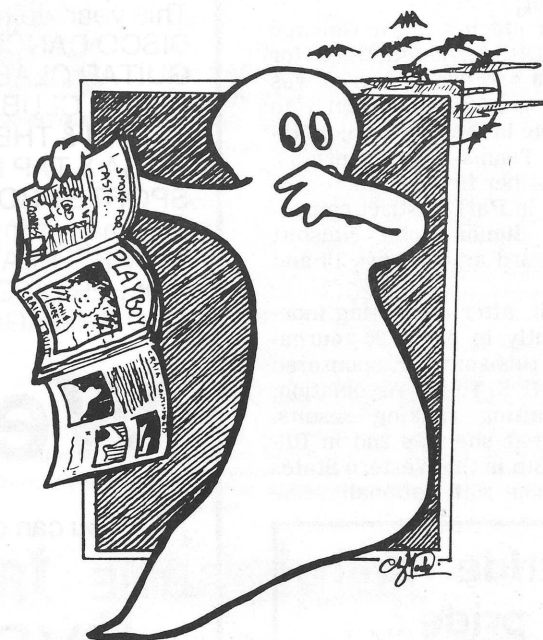
students and school organizations, the committee suggested regular, well-attended faculty meetings and regular homerooms or assemblies with mandatory attendance.

As possible problems resulting from a possible unstated philosophy of the school emphasizing hard work over the development of the individual, and lack of coordination of assignments in different classes, the committee cited a heavy academic workload, overlooked students and competition among students.

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