

Black, white (and everything in-between)

U-Highers don't see discrimination here, but do see social separations

By Deb Azrael

with research by Jennifer Lim,
David Hyman and Joyce Maxberry

Distinct social divisions along racial lines between blacks and whites exist at U-High, a recent series of Midway interviews with about 100 students indicate. White and black U-Highers, however, are content to remain within their circle of friends of the same race, the interviews also indicate. U-Highers feel relations between blacks and whites are friendly but largely do not involve friendships.

Oriental and members of other racial minorities feel that they are not limited to friendships with members of the same race but can be part of any group.

Most students felt teachers grade students without regard to race.

THE MIDWAY interviewed U-Highers who are black, white, Oriental, Asian Indian and American Indian about how they, as members of racial groups, perceive their position at U-High in relation to other racial groups and teachers.

Clear divisions between whites and blacks are obvious at U-High, many students said. "All you have to do is spend 5 minutes in the cafeteria and you'll see blacks on one side, whites on the other," a white freshman boy commented.

Both whites and blacks felt that interaction with the other race is limited by cliques made up only of people of one race. But some felt that such divisions

Black and white cliques coexist peacefully, most U-Highers felt.

"There is a great racial separation between whites and blacks here," a white sophomore girl said. "But, at least there's no open hostility. I could go over to where a whole bunch of blacks are sitting and they will completely ignore me."

SOME U-HIGHERS found the separation between blacks and whites limiting.

"Sometimes I feel sort of isolated because, I guess, as a black, people expect you to hang around with just the black kids," a black sophomore girl said. "Sometimes when you try to make friends outside of the group, some people look down on you."

Oriental, Asian Indians and American Indians felt that they were part of no racially-defined group. "We blend in well with everyone," an Oriental senior girl explained. "The blacks and whites are separated, but since we're neither black nor white, we can float around and be with whoever we want."

STUDENT OPINION about interracial couples was divided. An American Indian senior girl said, "Most people take interracial couples for granted. It's ridiculous for them to think about it because it's going on all the time."

A black senior girl felt differently. "Interracial couples don't bother half the blacks," she said. "But others view it as an insult. They feel it's a putdown because they feel the person cannot accept their own race."

Most U-Highers felt that all races are judged equally academically. "Teachers here grade based on the quality of your work, not where you're from," a white junior girl said. "Why should they care where the hell you're from?"

SEVERAL WHITES and blacks, however, felt that discrimination exists in grading. "I don't think that teacher attitudes are necessarily against blacks," a black senior boy said. "But many times they fail to understand blacks."

A black junior girl felt that grading discrimination does not exist but that, rather, whites cannot accept blacks getting good grades. "With some of the whites they are sort of prejudiced in the way they think," she explained. "Like in terms of grades, they think that you're not supposed to do better than they do, so they're shocked when they see you're excelling more than they are."

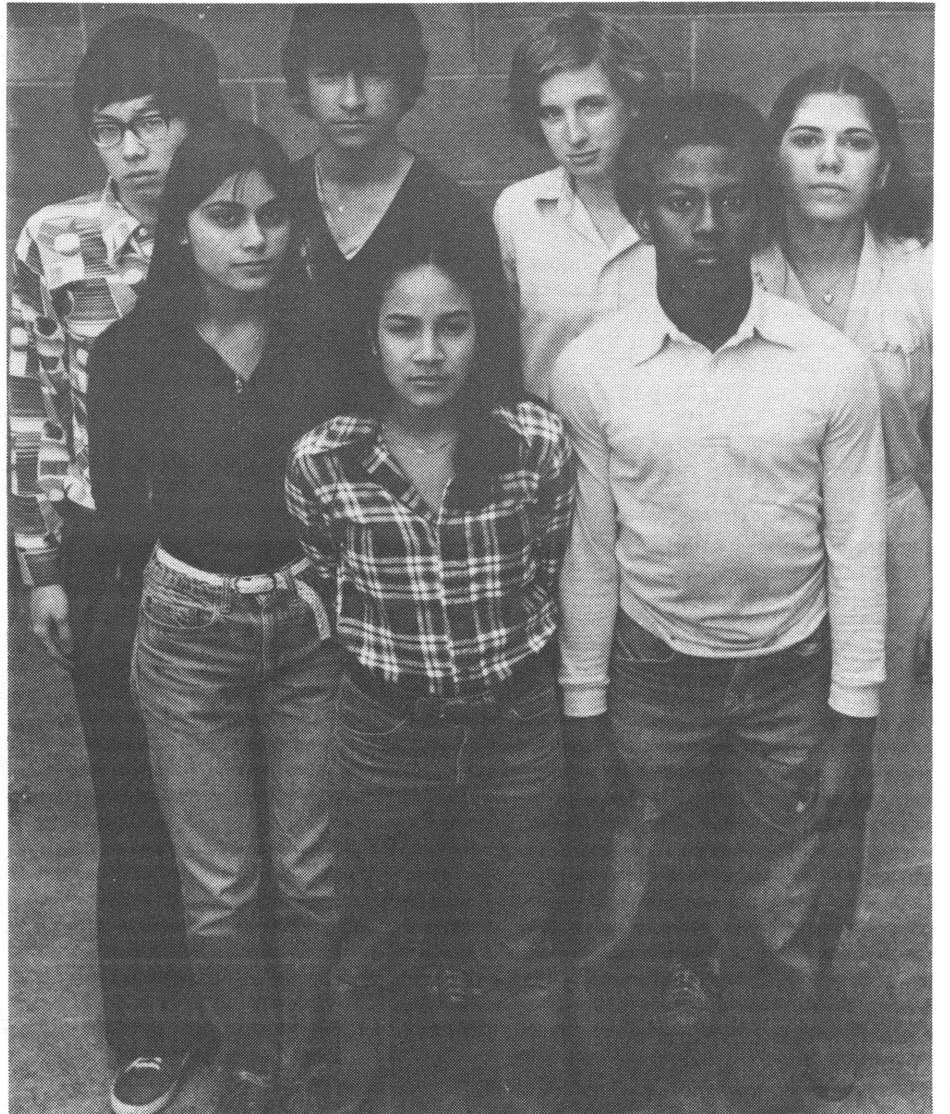


Photo by David Trosman

Several Orientals felt that they are expected to perform better academically than other racial groups. "I think some teachers regard Orientals as smarter than the norm, probably because there are not that many Orientals in America and many of them seem to excel," an Oriental sophomore boy said.

MAINTAINING A racial mix in the student body is a concern of administrators. According to Lab Schools director R. Bruce McPherson, administrators hope to attain a student body which includes students of all economic and racial backgrounds. Ideally, Mr. McPherson explained, the proportion of each racial and economic component in Lab Schools enrollment should be approximately the same as their proportion in Chicago.

Mr. McPherson said that Latinos are the minority group most out of proportion to their number in Chicago, with relatively few enrolled so far.

ALTHOUGH ADMINISTRATORS are concerned with achieving racial and economic balance at the Lab Schools, they use no enrollment quotas to try to insure a certain percentage of minority enrollment, according to Mr. McPherson. "We make no plans or individual enrollment decisions about students in

terms of race or economic background," he said.

Mr. McPherson further explained that administrators try to use recruitment programs and scholarships to achieve racial and economic balance.

School values mixed community

"Because we don't work under a quota system where we would limit the number of students from any given race or economic background that we admitted," he continued, "we look instead for potential students from diverse backgrounds in pools of people. A pool is a group of people in an area of the city or a group who read the same newspapers which might yield the type of students we are looking for."

Recently announced in the Chicago Tribune is the American Indian Scholarship Fund, established here by the mother of senior Susan Power, Ms. Susan Power, an Indian active in Indian affairs. The fund will be used to help finance Lab Schools tuition for Indians who cannot afford it.

BSA wins praise from U-Highers

By Becky Feaman

The Black Students Association (BSA) is the most productive and useful group at U-High because of the school and community projects it sponsors. That was the opinion of most of 40 U-Highers — both blacks and whites — recently interviewed by the Midway.

BSA was founded in 1969 by black students as a militant group directed at creating black identity at U-High, promoting black culture and improving black and white relations.

BSA was dissolved in 1974-75 when, because of an enlarged black enrollment at U-High, a more black-oriented society and black involvement in other school activities, members felt the group was no longer needed. But the following year, under the direction of former guidance counselor Jewel Willis, 60 interested black students re-formed the organization, opened membership to whites as well as blacks, and began service projects such as a now annual canned food drive for the needy at Thanksgiving.

BSA has since evolved into a community service organization which sponsors activities to benefit the school and community. Last year principal Geoff Jones presented BSA with the Principal's Citation, an award given to groups or individuals who significantly enhanced the life of the school during the year.

Among this year's BSA projects have been the canned food drive and a toy drive before Christmas, with donations going to needy families through Operation PUSH; an assembly commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; a series of career workshops; and a disco-dance workshop during Arts Week.

BSA president Tracy Lewis declined to be interviewed by Midway because she had just been interviewed for the yearbook. But, according to BSA secretary Michelle Montgomery, the group has tentative plans to sponsor a chocolate booth for this year's May Festival and to help the Midwest Association for Sickle Cell Anemia recruit participants for its annual bike-a-thon to raise money for research towards a cure for Sickle Cell Anemia.

In past years white students either reacted little to BSA or expressed disdain for black students' complaints of discrimination presented in Onyx, BSA's magazine. Few whites have joined BSA. Midway interviews this year, however, indicate that white students now respect and admire BSA, though no white presently is a member.

Senior Anne Fitchen compared BSA to Cultural Union as a group that sponsors student activities. "BSA's activities are just as significant because they're not only for the students but the outside community," she said.

Black students interviewed saw BSA as a significant group in establishing black identity here, although they felt it suffered from organizational problems.

Michelle felt BSA is a group where blacks can join

together to establish an identity. "U-High has so many white students that they don't have to go far to get an identity," she added. Senior Edwidge Raoul saw BSA as a group where "black students are working together to prove they can achieve. The only problem is they don't have strong morale. BSA members sometimes really have to be pushed to get things done." Some blacks won't join BSA, she added, because they feel it is disorganized.

As for why whites don't join BSA, some blacks feel whites don't regard the organization as significant. Some blacks don't feel BSA should be open to whites in the first place. Sophomore Loren Henning said, "BSA should only be open to black students. It's for us to prove we can achieve something just like others can."

Mr. Jones and BSA's advisers, Middle School math teacher Del McDonald and social studies teacher Philip Montag, all viewed BSA as one of U-High's most useful organizations. Mr. Jones said, "BSA continues to be a strong and active organization that is important to U-High because it's the only group that directs activities to benefit the school and community." Ms. McDonald said, "BSA is useful because it gets black students at U-High together to be more serious about work and school." She felt BSA's function is to promote more awareness and involvement among the student body. Mr. Montag said, "BSA is a group that represents the black students. It makes them significant at U-High." He views BSA as worthwhile because of its projects and because it makes other students more aware of the potential of black students.

Music festival to unite five choirs in concert

Visiting director to conduct them

Choirs from 3 area high schools will combine with the U-High Chamber and Concert choirs and the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel Choir under the direction of a nationally-known conductor in a concert 8 p.m., Sat., May 12 at the Chapel. The public is invited.

U-High choral director Richard Walsh initiated the concert, which he titled The Invitational High School Choral Festival, "to provide U-Highers positive interaction among Lab School, public school and suburban students, with music as the vehicle through which they meet and interact."

CHOIRS PARTICIPATING will come from Kenwood, Francis Parker and Addison Trail high schools. The students will spend the day on the U. of C. campus rehearsing for the concert and touring the University. They will eat lunch and dinner at U. of C. dining halls.

The combined high school choir of about 200 singers will open the program with "Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis De Deo" by Haydn and 2 other selections. Accompaniment will be provided by the Oak Park-River Forest High School string orchestra, whose members also will spend the day on campus. The selections will be directed by Dr. Don V. Moses, widely-acclaimed director of choral activities at the University of Iowa, and accompanied by University organist Edward Mondello. The Rockefeller choir will then perform, conducted by Mr. Richard Vikstrom, director of chapel music and father of U-Higher Richard. Finally, all the groups and the Chicago Brass Ensemble will perform Gabrieli's "In Ecclesiis." A record will be made of the entire program to be made available to participants and the public, according to Mr. Walsh.

Mr. Walsh said he first thought of organizing a festival when the U-High choirs were rehearsing for a concert last spring at the chapel. "I thought about how wonderful a really large chorus of voices would sound there," he said.

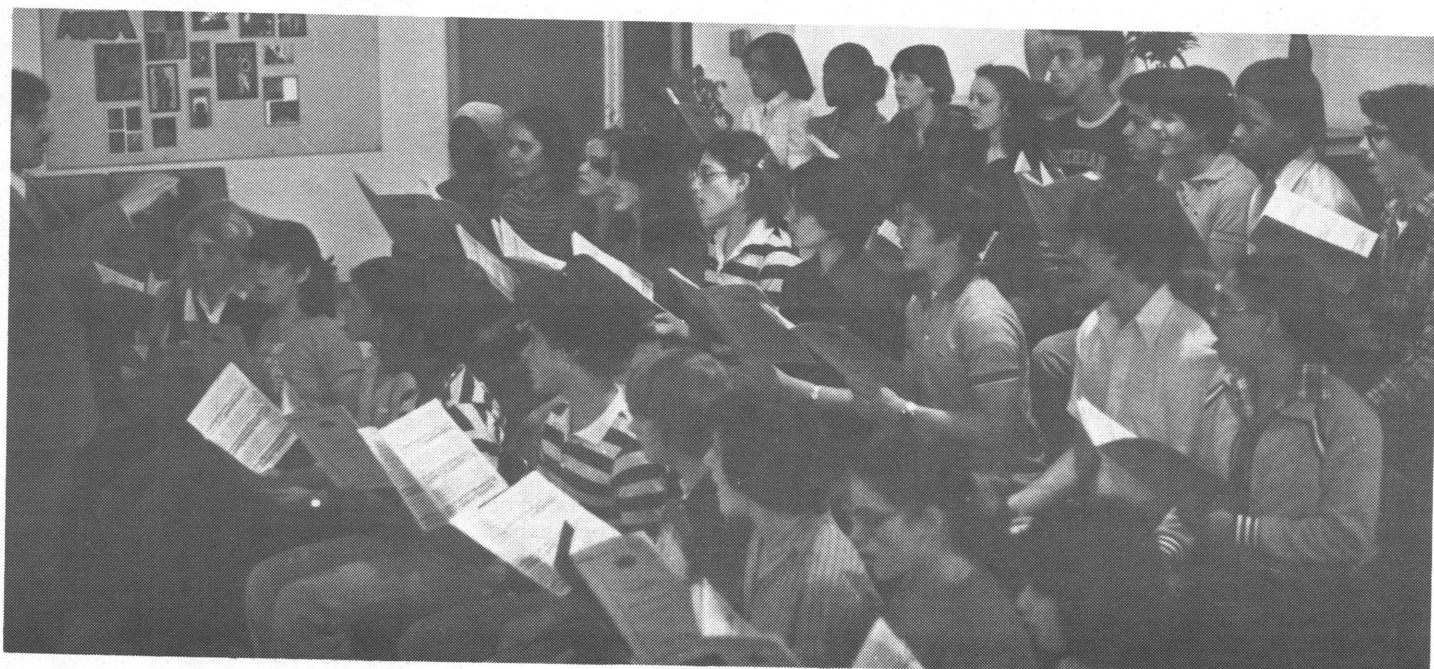
IN ANOTHER musical event, 54 U-Highers in the Band and Orchestra performed with Middle Schoolers in the 6th annual Instrumental Music Festival Apr. 17 at Mandel Hall.

Fifty U-Highers received 1st or 2nd division mention for excellent musicianship when Band and Orchestra members played in the Northwestern University Instrumental Music Festival Mar. 17.

As part of a series of concerts by Ms. Gisela Goettling's vocal classes, High School students will sing 12:45-2:15 p.m. in the Assembly Room Fri., May 4.

The program will feature the music of Handel, Mozart and Bach, with students also providing piano accompaniment.

A special attraction will be Ms. Goettling and senior Harry Gray singing folk songs.



DIRECTED BY Mr. Richard Walsh, members of the Chamber and Concert choirs rehearse for the Invitational High School Choral Festival May 12 at Rockefeller Chapel. Choir members are from left:

TOP ROW — Simon Rochman, Andre Daggs, Cyrus Claffey, Kevin Umeh, Brian Boyd,

Jackie Katz, Sarah Esterly, Edwidge Raoul, Lynn Sasamoto. CENTER ROW — Diane Steele, John Kramer, Ned Sasamoto, Hanano Anderson, Nancy Markovitz, Carmen Romero, Tatiana Toole, Sheila Bahadur, Gail Lehmann. BOTTOM ROW — Lillie Hsu, Jennifer Rosen, Sarah Rosett, Niels Rattenborg, Michael Zellner, Michelle Shaw, Vicki Mugica, Andrea Silberman, Nancy Janes, Dawn Kirkpatrick.

Photo by Chris Newcomb

SLCC to seek approval for Rights

A Bill of Student Rights, approved by the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) Apr. 2, will be presented soon to principal Geoff Jones and then the faculty for its approval, according to SLCC president Anders Thompson. The approved Bill would be amended to SLCC's constitution. Members of the Junior Congress on Constitutional Issues may speak on behalf of the Bill when it is presented, Anders said.

The Bill would be legally binding, if approved, on administrators and faculty, Anders told the Midway. But Midway interviews indicate the Bill might not be legally binding on administrators and faculty even if they approve it. According to Mr. Jones, because the student government constitution governs only students, a Bill of Rights added to it could not be considered binding on the faculty or administrators even if approved by them. A legal source interviewed by the Midway, who asked to remain unidentified, said issues concerning the Bill were so complicated he could not say whether it would be legally binding.

Work on the Bill of Rights was begun by a SLCC committee last year after Anders suggested such a document was something other schools had and U-High should have. The Bill was revised this year to cover student rights more specifically. The revised Bill would protect students from unwarranted searches and seizures; denial of property or removal from U-High without due process; being punished for something under a rule made after the fact; being constrained in the allocation of Student Activities funds; and being denied equal protection of

school rules.

If the Bill is approved by Mr. Jones and the faculty, SLCC will hold a student election on the Bill to gain approval for its addi-

Student government

By John Schloerb, government editor



tion to the student government constitution, Anders said. As of Midway deadline, Anders had informed neither Mr. Jones or the faculty about his plans for the Bill's presentation (also see editorial page 4).

In other government business, SLCC's plans for a faculty-student volleyball game Mar. 13 were cancelled until later this quarter because of a faculty meeting scheduled for the same day.

Cultural Union's Spelling Bee Mar. 20 and Easter Egg Hunt Apr. 13 were cancelled because no money was left in C.U.'s budget. Upcoming C.U. events have not been confirmed because SLCC has not allocated more funds to C.U., according to C.U. president Sabryna King.

Student Board may become faculty-student

A student-faculty board to handle minor discipline problems is being planned to replace Student Board next year, according to Student Board president Gretchen Antelman. Because of the Board's inability in its present form to handle discipline problems, the Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) developed a proposal, approved at a faculty meeting Apr. 9, for a student-faculty board. As of Midway deadline, SLCC was rewriting the Student Board section of the student government constitution to incorporate the changes.

Next year's Board, in the proposal, would consist of 3 faculty

advisers, a president, vice president and one representative from each class. By comparison, this year's Board has a president, vice president and only one faculty adviser and 2 representatives from each class. The changes were made to give the faculty a larger role in the board, Gretchen said.

Gretchen added that the Board will remain the same the remainder of this year and that the Board's adviser, shop teacher Herbert Pearson, would probably stay its adviser the rest of the year. He previously had said he might resign.

Gov't elections rescheduled again; tomorrow latest date

After being scheduled for 5 different dates, student government elections have been reset again. Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC) president Anders Thompson told the Midway late last week that the elections would take place tomorrow. SLCC first publicized the election last Thursday, giving prospective candidates less than a week to declare, get petitions signed and publicize their candidacies. In past years, the election has been announced several weeks in advance, giving candidates time to campaign and the Midway an opportunity to interview them for a day-before-election issue.

This year Midway editors cleared space in the Mar. 20 issue, and then this issue, for an election preview and then found themselves at deadline with either no election to preview or no candidates to interview.

"Because the candidates did not have to declare until Tuesday, the day before the election and the day the issue comes out, there was no way we could interview them so readers would know their plans and opinions," said Midway editor-in-chief Richard Letchinger. "We had a difficult time both issues trying at the last minute to fill major space we'd left for an election preview but, more important, the school is not going to get the kind of information on candidates it deserves."

Anders said a vote for approval of changing the Student Board constitution to make the board student-faculty next year (see story above) will be held as part of the elections. Elections for members of the faculty-student board, if approved by the student body, would probably take place 2 weeks after government elections, he added.

Friendliness

and informality between students and teachers is the greatest difference between U-High and her school in Paderborn, Germany, says Christa Mueller, right, who is attending U-High Apr. 3-May 4. Paderborn is the hometown of German teacher Gregor Heggen.

Linda Pardo, left, who spent Feb. 25-Mar. 30 in Germany attending school and living with a family in Schoenberg, correspondingly found a rigid, formal student-teacher relationship there.

The exchange was sponsored by the Gardner Fund of the University of Chicago, with U-High's German Club finding host homes for Christa.

Christa is staying at the homes of sophomore Heidi Hackel and senior Donna Moragne. She was chosen for the trip because of her knowledge of English and desire "to understand the American way of life."

Linda said she enjoyed Germany and



Photo by Chris Newcomb

her German family, found her German improved greatly while there, and hopes to return.



Photo by David Trosman

U-HIGH JOURNALIST Jeremy Friedman interviews U-High graduates Pamela Zekman, left, and Jackie Thomas, now professional journalists who report for the Sun-Times.

Grads write, make news

By Jeremy Friedman, community editor

Posing as a bartender at the Mirage, a Near North Side tavern operated by the Better Government Association and the Chicago Sun-Times, reporter Pamela Zekman helped disclose a major scandal involving city inspectors who accepted bribes.

Ms. Zekman, a '61 U-High graduate, has worked 3 years for the Sun-Times and, before that, worked 5 years at the Chicago Tribune. She has shared in 2 Pulitzer Prizes awarded to investigative news teams at the Tribune. Investigations by the Sun-Times' news teams in the past year into Michigan Avenue abortion clinics and Chicago baby-selling agencies have led to a slue of indictments involving lawyers, physicians and city officials.

ON FRIDAY Ms. Zekman will be honored by Northern Illinois University as Journalist of the Year.

Ms. Zekman is one of 2 U-High graduates at the Sun-Times. Ms. Jackie Thomas, '68, covers urban affairs. She was writing about condominium problems in Hyde Park before people ever heard about a "condo crunch." Ms. Thomas, after being editorial and editorial features editor for the Midway her senior year, first worked at the Sun-Times during summers. She has worked fulltime for the

paper 4½ years. She got her 1st job there after the Midway received the Pacemaker Award as one of the 6 best high school newspapers in the nation and a Sun-Times editor came to U-High to present individual certificates to the paper's editors.

"Most of my real academic training in journalism came from high school," Ms. Thomas said.

MS. ZEKMAN, who had no previous experience in journalism, tumbled into her career after college. "I started out in social work," she explained, "but found that I could not accomplish much."

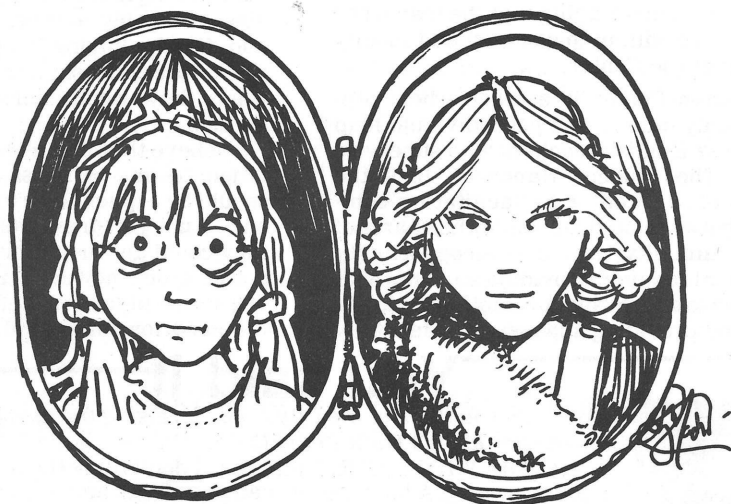
Starting her journalism career at the City News Bureau, Ms. Zekman decided that she could use newspaper work to accomplish the social reform she aimed at as a social worker. "The top lawyers involved in baby selling that I came across earlier ended up getting indicted as a result of our baby selling investigation," Ms. Zekman said.

The U-High graduates have experienced little sexism in their jobs. "Being a woman is an advantage," Ms. Zekman said, "because the last thing people expect when I'm doing an investigation is that I'm a reporter."

MS. THOMAS felt, however, that being black or a woman can be disadvantageous "to people who want to move up in newspaper management. The opportunity just isn't there."

Both reporters feel that attending U-High was helpful in starting their journalism careers. Along with getting them into good colleges — Briarcliff for Ms. Thomas and Berkeley for Ms. Zekman — the education they received at U-High, in Ms. Thomas' words, "stressed how to think things out and to question. These are invaluable to journalism."

Bob's: Your fashion headquarters



U-High girl before going to Bob's. U-High girl after going to Bob's.

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Compendium

• Dewey, State of School speeches May 2

Mr. A. Graham Down, executive director of the Council for Basic Education, will give the annual John Dewey lecture sponsored by the Parents' Association, 8:30 p.m., Wed., May 2 in Judd 126. As part of the same program, Lab Schools director R. Bruce McPherson will give the annual State of the Schools speech 7:30 p.m. A wine and cheese reception will follow the speeches in the Lower School art gallery. As part of a recent series of faculty talks sponsored by the Association, Social Studies Department chairperson Earl Bell spoke on teaching controversial issues in history and Foreign Language Department chairperson Karen Putnam spoke on teaching foreign language as a way of helping children look at their values.

• Summer school enrollment open for 8 courses

Eight courses will be offered to U-Highers in Summer School, providing all courses get minimum enrollment, according to Lower School teacher Alice Moses. Summer School principal. Two additional courses, Biology and Environmental Physical Science, also are being offered but have already been filled. Students can register for courses by returning an application and \$25 deposit to Blaine 103 before classes start. Titles of courses still available, class hours, dates and teachers are as follows:

Theater Workshop-Acting, 8 a.m.-noon, June 18-Aug. 3, Ms. Lucija Ambrosini; Drivers Education, 8-10 a.m., June 25-Aug. 3, Mr. Sanford Patak. Intermediate Composition, 9-10:30 a.m., June 25 - Aug. 3, Mr. Rex Martin; Introduction to Trigonometry and Logarithms, 9 a.m. - noon, June 25-Aug. 3, Mr. Richard Muelder; Golf, 8-10 a.m., June 25-Aug. 2 (no Friday classes), Mr. Steve Kollross; Tennis, 10 a.m.-noon, June 25-Aug. 2 (no Friday classes), Mr. Steve Kollross; World Cultures (Social Studies 2), 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., June 25-Aug. 10, Ms. Susan Shapiro; American Studies (American Foreign Policy), 9 a.m.-noon, June 25-July 3, Mr. Joel Surgal.

• Freshman gets lead in May Festival play

Freshman Tom Bigongiari will perform in the title role of this year's May Festival play, "Tom Jones." Junior Debra Schwartz will play the female lead, Sophie. They and other cast members were chosen at tryouts Mar. 19-23. The Festival will take place Thurs.-Sat., May 17-19. For the first time, no admission will be charged to the courtyard. Tickets for the play will cost \$3.50, with seats reserved. Proceeds as in previous years will go the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund. The courtyard will open 5:30 p.m., and close at 7:30 p.m. Play seating will begin at 7:45 p.m., with the play starting at 8. On Saturday the festival will begin 1 p.m. for an afternoon of games and activities.

• Debaters win 3, lose 3 at state competition

Varsity debater Ben Roberts and Thomas Freedman scored 3 wins and 3 losses at Illinois High School Association (IHSA) state debate competition Apr. 5-7 in Normal. Ben and Tom qualified for IHSA state competition by finishing 2nd out of 30 teams with 10 wins and 2 losses at IHSA sectionals Feb. 24-25 at Rich East High School. Ben won 1st speaker and Tom won 8th speaker out of approximately 60 debaters at Rich East. Tom and Ben lost in quarterfinals in Illinois Speech and Theater Association state finals Mar. 1-3, also in Normal. The debate team recently applied to be invited to the University of Kentucky's Tournament of Champions May 10. Tom said the U-Highers probably will get an invitation because of his and Ben's successful seasons.

• Two U-Highers to learn through travel this summer

Because she demonstrated superior camping skills, mastery of Spanish and German and ability to work with people, junior Sabryna King is one of about 10 girl scouts from across the nation selected for a trip to Finland, July 26-Aug. 19. Junior Dan Fish will travel to Mexico this summer, July 7-Aug. 3, on a trip organized by the Experiment in International Living, a private non-profit educational organization which sponsors cross-cultural learning programs. Dan will live with a Mexican family for 4½ weeks in a city still to be determined and then travel throughout the country with 10 other exchange students and a guide. Senior Jim Reginato presently is in England on a similar program.

• U-Highers bike, ski during spring vacation

Biking on the roads of Mississippi and skiing through the snow of Utah, 2 groups of U-Highers spent spring break away from Chicago. Twenty Bike Club members traveled by bus to Coldwater, Miss., where they mounted their bicycles for a 200-mile ride through the state. According to Bike Club presidents Sally Newcomb and Dick Burks, the group rode about 5 hours a day for 7 days, sleeping at campgrounds during the night. They experienced only a half a day of rain. Another group, of 27 U-Highers, traveled to Snowbird, Utah, on a non-school-sponsored trip organized by junior David Weiss in cooperation with Ski Trails, a Chicago-based travel agent. The group traveled by plane to Salt Lake City but, because of a United Airlines strike, was forced to endure a 38-hour bus ride back to Chicago and miss the 1st day of spring quarter. The group appeared on 2 Salt Lake City television news programs and in one newspaper because it was stranded at Salt Lake airport 8 hours.

• School buys minicomputer, video recorder

A minicomputer with a video terminal rather than a printing terminal and a video recorder with camera have been purchased for the school for \$2,600 with a gift from the Parents' Association and money from a school fund. A television set on which the videotapes made with the recorder can be shown has not been purchased, but principal Geoff Jones hopes one will be donated. The minicomputer will be used primarily by the Math Department and is portable enough to be moved around for classroom use, according to math teacher Richard Muelder. The video recorder system will be used for filming drama and sports practices, showing educational films and for other teacher-supervised activities, according to Mr. Jones.

• State Farm sponsors Ann Hightower scholarship

Ann Hightower's National Achievement Scholarship announced in the last issue of the Midway was sponsored by the State Farm Companies Foundation, not Allstate. The information given the Midway was incorrect.

• Twins born to English teacher, former teacher

Twin boys, Luke and Jules, were born to English teacher Rex Martin and his wife, the former English teacher Ann Borsdorf, Apr. 14. Mother and sons (and father) are doing well.

As the Midway sees it



Art by Chris Maddi

"WHERE'S THE RIGHT TO DECIDE OUR RIGHTS?"

• Whose rights?

or...SLCC does it wrong

The Student Legislative Coordinating Council soon will ask administrators and faculty to approve a Bill of Rights to be added to the student government constitution (see story page 2). If they approve the proposal, according to SLCC president Anders Thompson, the student body will be asked to approve the addition.

You would think SLCC would have done things the other way around. But U-Highers were never asked if they had any suggestions about what a Bill guaranteeing their rights against existing or potential infringements by administrators or faculty should say. Nor were administrators or faculty asked for their ideas. Nor was there an attempt to find if there was agreement among students, administrators and faculty about such rights, or an attempt to draw up the Bill based on communication between the groups.

It still might not be a bad idea, before going to administrators and faculty with its proposal, for SLCC to talk to the students — its constituents — about what they think their rights should be.

• No-policy policy

That's attendance situation now

A U-High boy with straight As occasionally cuts math and English. At the end of the quarter, after doing A work in both classes, he gets an A in math and a C in English. This situation conceivably could result from the attendance policy instituted by the English Department the beginning of this quarter. Under the policy, cuts and tardies result in lowered grades (see story page 6).

According to principal Geoff Jones, attendance in some classes is more significant than in others in terms of grading or class participation, so he feels individual departments have the right to establish additional attendance requirements. The presence of students is necessary for class discussion in English, he said.

The all-school attendance policy formulated by teachers last year kept attendance and grading systems separate. But the English Department's policy has mixed the two. Such inconsistency really equals no school policy. Administrators and faculty members need to decide whether or not attendance should directly affect grading and enforce an all-school policy reflecting that decision.

• Fact fallout

The American way of lying

During the recent Three-Mile Island nuclear power plant incident, the public was told that overall there was nothing to worry about. But even as they were given that reassurance, many people figured that later it would be revealed that they were being lied to and there had been plenty to worry about. Which is exactly what happened. People just assumed that the situation was far more dangerous than indicated by the public relations material government and power plant officials were handing out. The habit of public officials lying to the public has become such a way of life today, that now people assume everything they are being told is false. And that's the way it will continue to be as long as the public tolerates it.

u-high midway

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FOCUS ON FILMS

Of prophets and accidental prophecy: 'Deer Hunter' and 'China Syndrome'

"THE DEER HUNTER" earlier this month won the Academy Award for best picture of 1978. If the Academy had an award for prophecy, "The China Syndrome" would be a shoe-in for next year.

As I walked, or more accurately stumbled, out of "The Deer Hunter," the only critical assessment my numbed mind could make was that "The Deer Hunter" is surely one of the greatest films I have ever seen.

Briefly, the film follows 3 close friends — Michael, Steve and Nick — from the steel mills of Pennsylvania to the battlefields and sordid cities of Vietnam.

IT PORTRAYS WAR as a personal conflict between men. So the film is not really about war at all but, as many critics have pointed out, about men, their conflicts and comradeship. No film has so beautifully shown the urgent yet fearful way in which men touch. And all of their fears of homosexuality, sexual inadequacy, cowardice and desertion fill the screen.

"The Deer Hunter" is a mystical film. The character Michael, portrayed by the finest living actor besides Sir Laurence Olivier, Robert DeNiro, is a mystic with a vital understanding of what Death means to Life. In his key role as deer hunter, town prophet and saviour of his friends, he maintains a unity with nature which makes him the survivor, if not a near demigod.

Like a number of recent important films — "Three Women" for example — "The Deer Hunter" is also about the merger and exchange of personality. When Michael stares into his friend's coffin he sees his own face. And while Nick, brilliantly played by Christopher Walken, who deservedly won the Oscar for best supporting actor, assumes Michael's passionate addiction to Russian roulette, Michael develops Nick's more passive relation with nature.

ULTIMATELY, IT TAKES a film like "China Syndrome" to make us understand why "The Deer Hunter" will endure as a classic. Though "The China Syndrome" attempts to tackle human issues such as greed and responsibility, its power is dependent on the fear caused by our present involvement with nuclear energy. As time passes, the present attitudes and atmosphere concerning nuclear energy will change. The issues of Vietnam are, though present in "The Deer Hunter," secondary, and the film will outlive those issues.

But one cannot fault "The China Syndrome" for not being a classic. It is enough that it be a taut and politically-important thriller.

In "The China Syndrome," Jane Fonda, a t.v. newswoman, and her crew are present during a

The Oscars, in person

Senior Susan Power attended the Academy Awards ceremony Apr. 9 in Los Angeles. She had appeared in one of the nominated documentary films, "The Divided Trail: A Native American Odyssey," about urban Indians, partly filmed at the Lab Schools. Susan, who was featured in the Nov. 14 Midway and was the subject of a story Apr. 3 in the Chicago Tribune, would have accepted the Oscar with producer Jerry Aronson had the film won. In the film, Susan discussed what it was like to be an Indian in Chicago and sang several songs. Here she tells about her night at the Oscars.

JERRY AND I walked to the entrance of the Dorothy Chandler Pavillion at 5:30 p.m., behind Yul Brynner and Audrey Hepburn. Spectators, police and reporters shouted on either side of us.

The ceremony was less glamorous than I'd imagined. The theater was so small that pre-

Freshman Center may not be b

WHEN A TEACHER approached me a few weeks ago complaining hysterically that "they" were turning the school into a prison with the Freshman Center, I thought he was overstating the case, but I was sympathetic. I also tended to agree with him that even if the Center was found not to be a good idea, its proponents would defend it to the death.

The Center, as any freshman knows, is a study hall that freshmen must attend twice a week during their free periods. Last week, Center teachers decided that students could have the option of attending the Center once a week.

WHILE I REMAIN dubious about the validity of the whole concept of a Freshman Center as the appropriate method of solving the problems it is targeted for, it is encouraging that the teachers I talked to were so willing to question and modify the operation of the Center.

The Freshman Center is a place where students may study quietly and get individual help from one of the English teachers who supervise the Center. The Student Handbook lists the major goals of the Center as facilitating communication between students and other parts of the school community, providing an opportunity for recreational reading, providing students with a "familiar base group" by "promoting social interaction" and providing supervised quiet study

time and individual tutoring for students.

While I agree that the first 3 goals are worthwhile, I will for the most part ignore them in my discussion of the merits of the Center. I think ample opportunity exists at U-High for communication, reading and socializing. In addition, an evaluation of the Center based on questionnaires to freshmen, Center teachers and faculty found that the Center was not particularly effective in promoting these activities.

THERE IS LITTLE question, however, that English teacher Sophie Ravin is correct when she says that the Center has helped to alleviate 3 important problems: The Center provides a quiet place to study, something that is noticeably lacking anywhere else in the school; the individual tutoring helps many students who are incapable of writing a cogent well-organized essay; and, finally, having to attend the Center twice a week forces freshmen to do their homework when they would normally waste their free periods.

I believe that the Center is not an adequate solution to any of these problems. The library should be a quiet place to study. If it were, everyone — not just freshmen — would have a place they could get their work done. The library will not be quiet, however, until there is an equally attractive place for students to socialize. Thus, the need for some kind of student lounge, per-

You said it

What do you think of the City Council raising the drinking age in Chicago from 19 to 21?

CLAUDIA WHITAKER, freshman: I don't think the law is going to work. A lot of people can pass for 21 and even if they can't, they can probably get liquor anyway. But even so, when you're an adult and can vote, I think there shouldn't be the restriction.

RHONDA GANS, junior: I can understand the reasons behind the law. There has obviously been abuse of the privilege causing accidents or crime, but people who want to drink will drink, just as people who want to smoke pot will do it.

JOSH HYMAN, sophomore: In the long run the law will be better because there will be less people getting away with buying liquor with fake I.D.s. For the moment it's annoying, but I suppose if you've waited until you're 19 to drink in bars you can wait until you're 21.

JOHN BOBRINSKOY, senior: I think 19-year-olds have the same rights as 50-year-olds do because they have the same responsibilities. They pay taxes or can be drafted, for instance. While teenage drinking is a problem, prohibition proved that you can't stop it. Basically, I think the new law isn't going to make any difference. People are going to drink anyway.



Claudia Whitaker



Josh Hyman



Rhonda Gans



John Bobrinsky

Positively
CriticalBy Adam Simon,
Midway critic

early catastrophic accident at a nuclear power plant. The film shows the lengths to which the nuclear industry goes to coverup the accident.

AFTER THE RECENT accident at Three-Mile Island, which was almost identical to the one described in "The China Syndrome," Jane Fonda and Michael Douglas have succeeded beyond their wildest dreams (or nightmares) in what they set out to do: to educate and inform the public about the dangers of nuclear energy.

One idea which "The Deer Hunter" and "The China Syndrome" both suggest, is that when the press fails to provide the facts, as it may have one in its early coverage of the Vietnam War and as it surely has done in its coverage of nuclear energy, perhaps it is up to art to inform and educate the people.

First
PersonBy Susan Power,
guest columnist

enters had to wait in the aisles before going onstage. To keep the appearance of a full audience, 100 people had been hired merely to sit in for noninees — who were sitting apart from the general audience — should we leave our seats. Waiting nervously for the award presentation, stars like Laurence Olivier and Jane Fonda, who we'd met earlier that week at a party given by Christopher Reeve, milled around.

The time after the ceremony was perhaps even more exciting, as the stars waited for limousines. Some showed themselves to be much less instant than I'd expected, including Brooke Shields, who was arguing with her mother.

est idea

haps supervised by those who currently supervise the Freshman Center.

If many students at U-High are not learning how to write, this strikes me as a serious problem deserving a more certain solution than the Center provides (especially if teachers who cannot tutor English begin teaching Freshman Center). A required yearlong writing course for freshmen might be warranted.

Penny
DreadfulsBy Jonathan Silverman,
Midway columnist

FINALLY, MAKING A freshman do his homework twice a week may temporarily improve his performance, but when he is a sophomore he will still not know how to organize his time. Perhaps a weekly meeting with a faculty adviser to plan what work is to be done might better meet this goal.

If it is not feasible to teach the student how to work, rather than simply forcing him to, it would be better to let the student learn from his mistakes when he is a freshman, than putting this process off for another year.

Mailbox: Counselors consider individual
guidance important service

From guidance counselors Karen Robb, Betty Schneider, Mary Lee Hoganson and Jackie Grundy:

We wish to congratulate you for your efforts in presenting the recent series of articles on school pressures, work load and meeting parental expectations. Indeed these are serious concerns of many students and ones which are properly addressed by the Midway.

We would like, however, to highlight what we consider the most important aspect of our job, which is to work with individual students, particularly when they are grappling with difficult situations. Family or personal crises such as divorce, physical or mental illness, depression, anxiety and death are a part of the human experience and Lab Schools students though exceptional in some areas certainly are not exceptions in those instances. As counselors, we have the training and the responsibility to help, either personally or through referral to someone who

Senior year
doesn't have to
end in slump

WINTER AND SPRING quarters are a time when seniors find it increasingly difficult to do schoolwork. Most seniors, as a result, only do work that is absolutely necessary to graduate. This attitude is commonly referred to as "Senior Slump."

Colleges look only at 1st quarter grades unless a student is a borderline case. Most seniors, therefore, consider winter and spring quarter grades inconsequential. Because U-High is a college preparatory school, it's understandable that seniors tend to slack off in their work during this time. In some cases it's a complete shutdown.

I feel, and so did almost all the seniors I talked to, that because U-High is a college preparatory school, the last 2 quarters could be put to much more productive use. "Instead of coming to school and just going through the motions without any desire," senior Joe Quinn said, "I could be working in a specific area which I've found interesting."

The idea is essentially what May Project is about. But if students had an entire quarter to study a field they found interesting in their first 3½ years at U-High, they could use the city as a laboratory. There's a much better chance of finding an interesting job and learning more, given 10 weeks instead of 4.

Eyes
Saw ItBy Joe Williams,
Midway columnist

"A certain group of seniors would be much better off if May Project was extended and they were allowed to do work-study projects for pay or volunteer work outside of the school," said Math Department chairperson Margaret Matchett, who was the project's first director from 1969 to 1974.

Such a plan would give students a chance to take money to college or at least get experience in a field of interest for a longer time. Going to work and going to school require the same kind of commitment. Seniors are more likely to give this kind of time commitment to a job rather than school.

Also, "senior slump" can affect getting used to schoolwork at college, some graduates say. "At first it was very hard for me to do as much as college demands," said George Hinojosa, '78, who now attends Colorado College. "It was mostly because of my attitude about school these last 2 quarters."

The last time the faculty discussed these last months at U-High was 2 years ago. Some teachers, such as Social Studies Department chairperson Earl Bell, feel senior slump doesn't exist. Most of the teachers I talked to, however, felt that slumping does exist for some students, but don't see it as a major problem.

What I see is many seniors for whom the decision to go to class can depend on anything from the weather to which floor the class is on. The potential for the last quarter can go beyond just waiting for graduation.

can. It is true that counselors do a good deal of academic advising and that a long term commitment to a particular student may be hampered by other responsibilities and the school calendar, yet to conclude that we have no time to work with individual students, when they are facing problems which seem overwhelming, would be in error.

We expect students to come with unsolved problems — they are coming all the time. Students are not apt to publicize their contact with a counselor at a point of crisis, and counselors, respecting their privacy, are not inclined to tally for the school community, the number of students seen or the nature of the difficulties they face. We have learned that students find that problems looming large can often be cut down to size, once they are confronted and that in talking them out, a variety of possible solutions can be more clearly defined. After all, that's what counseling is all about!

•TUES., APR. 24

BOYS' BASEBALL, Latin, 4 p.m. here.
GIRLS' SOFTBALL, North Shore, 4 p.m., there.
SWIMMING, Quigley South, 4:30 p.m. there.
GYMNASTICS, District Meet, Hillcrest High School, time to be announced.
CHORAL PERFORMANCE, Grace Lutheran School Children's Choir, 7:30 p.m., Bond Chapel on the University Quadrangle. Part of "Children of the Chapel" series cosponsored by the Lab Schools and Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

• WED., APR. 25

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS, 2nd-6th periods, 2nd floor landing (story page 2).

• THURS., APR. 26

SWIMMING, Mt. Carmel, 4:30 p.m., there.

• FRI., APR. 27

BOYS' TENNIS, North Shore, 4:30 p.m., here.
GIRLS' SOFTBALL, North Shore, 4 p.m., there.
BOYS' BASEBALL, North Shore, 4:30 p.m., here.
DANCE MARATHON (tentative), sponsored by Cultural Union, 3 p.m.-midnight, cafeteria.

• SAT., APR. 28

GIRLS' TRACK, Luther South and St. Benedict, 9 a.m. Stagg Field.

• MON., APR. 30

BOYS' TENNIS, Morgan Park, 4 p.m. here.
BOYS' TRACK, Immaculate Conception and St. Francis, 4 p.m., Elmhurst College.

• TUES., MAY 1

BOYS' TENNIS, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., here.
BOYS' BASEBALL, Morgan Park, 4 p.m., here.
GIRLS' SOFTBALL, Lake Forest, 4 p.m., here.

• WED., MAY 2

BOYS' BASEBALL, Harvard St. George, 4 p.m., there.
DEWEY LECTURE AND STATE OF THE SCHOOLS ADDRESS, sponsored by the Parents' Association, 7:30 p.m., Judd 126.

• FRI., MAY 4

VOCAL CLASS CONCERT, 12:45-2:15 p.m., Assembly Room
BOYS' TENNIS, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., there.
BOYS' BASEBALL, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., here.
GIRLS' SOFTBALL, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., here.
SWIMMING, ISL Invitational at Latin School, time to be announced.
BOYS' TRACK, Illiana Christian, Beecher, Francis Parker, Mt. Carmel, Taft and Fenwick, 4 p.m., Stagg Field.

• SAT., MAY 5

BOYS' AND GIRLS' TRACK, Mooseheart Relays, 9 a.m., Mooseheart, Ill.

• MON., MAY 7

BOYS' TENNIS, Thornton, 4:30 p.m., there.

• TUES., MAY 8

BOYS' TENNIS, Lake Forest, 4:30 p.m., here.
GIRLS' SOFTBALL, Francis Parker, 4 p.m., there.
BOYS' BASEBALL, Lake Forest, 4:30 p.m., here.
ALL-SCHOOL OLYMPICS (tentative), sponsored by Cultural Union, time and place to be announced.

• WED., MAY 9

BOYS' TENNIS, Morgan Park, 4 p.m., there.

• FRI., MAY 11

ANNUAL AWARDS ASSEMBLY, 12:30 pm., Judd 126.

• SAT., MAY 12

SWIMMING, IHSA Districts, time and place to be announced.
GIRLS' TRACK, Girls' State Districts, 9 a.m., Stagg Field.
MUSICAL FESTIVAL, 8 p.m., Rockefeller Chapel (story page 2)

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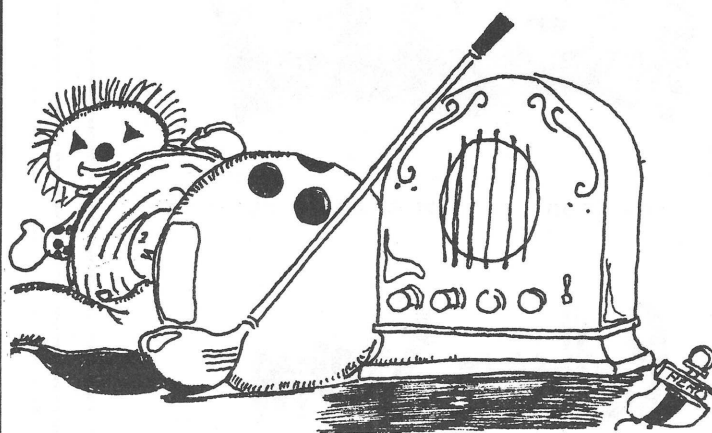
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Teacher campaigns for village office

By Jeremy Friedman, community editor

Campaigning as a candidate for village trustee of Park Forest South, social studies chairperson Earl Bell says he learned that the people there have great respect for local politicians.

Mr. Bell was elected one of 3 trustees out of 8 candidates last Tuesday. He received the 2nd highest number of votes.

Village trustees are responsible, with a village president, for creating local ordinances on matters such as the allocation of budget funds, getting local taxes and determining land annexations. A trustee works mostly at home, except for attending weekly village council meetings at the village hall. Trustees are paid to cover expenses the job involves. Mr. Bell planned to devote about an hour a day to the job.

Mr. Bell decided to run for trustee after complaining to village hall without

results about last winter's snow removal. "If I can't get anywhere by talking to the government," he said, "I'll run for office." Mr. Bell said that because he treasures knowing exactly what goes on around him, another incentive for him to run was that becoming a trustee would "put me in the center of information, getting it firsthand."

While campaigning, Mr. Bell talked with village members and researched public issues. "I learned a lot about bonds, capital budgets and other financial aspects of government," he said. Mr. Bell campaigned throughout spring break and on weekends this quarter, going door to door talking with residents.

Running in the election, Mr. Bell said, was "an uphill battle because prior to this I had not been involved in village politics. I was fighting the problem of name recognition. Nobody," he added, "had ever run in this village for the 1st time and won."



MR. EARL BELL
New Park Forest South trustee

Photo by David Yufit

English policy okay: principal

By Judy Roth

Allowing departments to expand on attendance requirements, as the English Department has this quarter, does not imply that attendance in some classes is more important than others, principal Geoff Jones feels.

The English Department's policy lowers students' grades for cuts and unexcused tardies and states that students may lose credit for a course if absences and tardies are excessive. The school's attendance policy does not state that student grades will be lowered, although teachers may take attendance into consideration when determining grades.

Chairperson Darlene McCampbell said the department initiated the policy because "the number of students absent from class became excessive last quarter. It was time to do something about it."

Concerning the department having a policy different from the all-school policy, Mr. Jones said, "All classes are ones that you should attend. When a school gets a policy it has to take into account the normal reasons why one is late or absent. The policy has to be tolerant. However, in some classes you can't afford to be that tolerant. Therefore, there's room for individual changes. For example, in physical education classes the entire grade is based on participation. If you're not there you can't be evaluated. Therefore, you can be less tolerant of absences and tardiness of classes which depend on participation. In English classes the point is that you need to be there for discussion, and others depend on your being there. So it's not a question of the importance of a class, but the level of participation required for that class."

Also see editorial page 4.

Bargainers expect salaries to be main issue

By Jonathan Silverman, political editor

Negotiations between the Faculty Association and the University for next year's contract will probably begin in about a week, according to Lab Schools associate director David Cunningham. As in previous years, the major issue in negotiations is expected to be teacher salaries, and both sides have taken steps to give themselves the strongest bargaining position possible, according to Social Studies Department chairperson Earl Bell, Union president.

The Faculty Association, the teacher's union, bargains with the University for a contract for the entire faculty, although not all teachers belong to the Union. The previous contract, which covered 2 years, was negotiated in meetings over a period of 5 months.

In February, the union sent a letter to University president Hanna Gray advising her against determining school tuition increases until the amount of money needed for teacher salaries was known. The union's concern, according to Mr. Bell, is that the University will use the tuition level as an excuse to limit the amount of money it can offer the union. Ms. Gray did not respond to the union's letter, and next year's tuition at U-High

was raised from \$2,700 to \$2,866. According to Lab Schools director R. Bruce McPherson, the school let parents know next year's tuition in March to help them plan for the following year.

Mr. Bell said he is concerned that the tuition increase of 6.5 per cent will be used as an excuse not to give the 15 per cent cost-of-living increase the union probably will ask for. Mr. McPherson said that lack of funds has never been mentioned at the bargaining table in his memory. Mr. Cunningham said that enough flexibility exists in the budget for both parties to "come to an equitable solution" and that salaries are not limited by tuition increases. According to Mr. Bell, "The reason they never talk money at the bargaining table" is that the University would then have to open its financial books to substantiate its claims. That, Mr. Bell said, would reveal a substantial surplus for the Laboratory Schools. Mr. Cunningham denied any such surplus exists. The tuition level, according to Mr. Bell, is an unspoken limitation on the University position.

Recently elected, other union officers are as follows:

First vice president, crafts teacher Nella Weiner; 2nd vice president, college counselor Betty Schneider; treasurer, math teacher Richard Muelder; secretary, typing and business teacher Faynelle Haehn; members-at-large, librarian Mary Biblo, social studies teacher Joel Sural and Lower School teacher Susan Davis.

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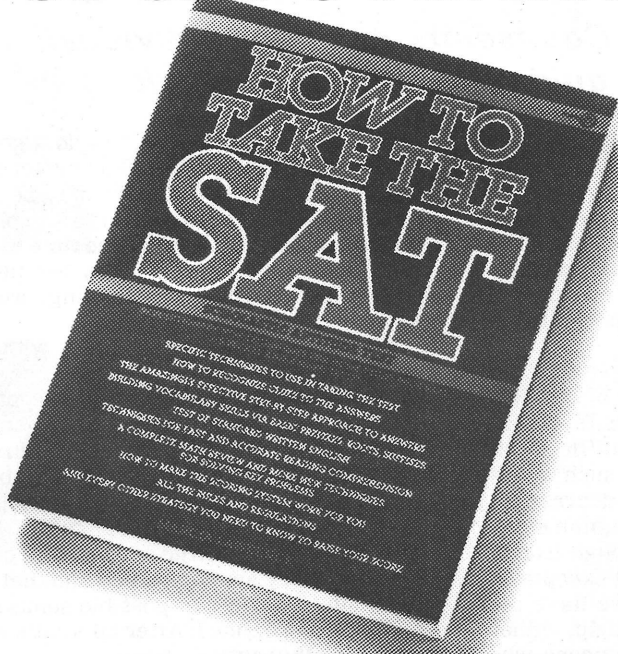
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Cornell is as exciting as a jazz festival (we have one scheduled for next Spring) or an Oktoberfest (you guessed it...October) or a student trip to the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis or to musicals and symphony concerts and rock concerts from one end of the midwest to the other. There's always something going on, somewhere to go, someone to see, something to do.



Cornell is as traditional as a homecoming dance, a football game in the Fall and ivy on the walls. Like more of America's fine learning institutions, Cornell is a place of challenge and diversity where you'll learn from interesting teachers and make interesting new friends. It's a place of freedom and fun; a place you'll never forget.

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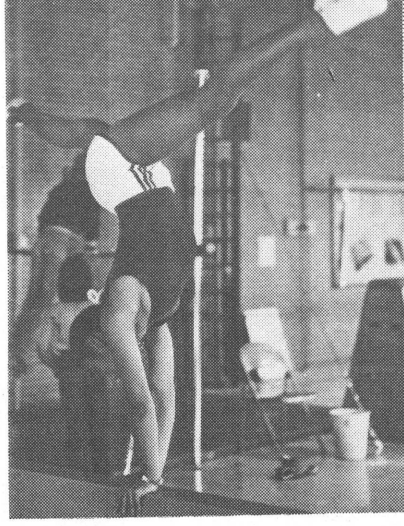
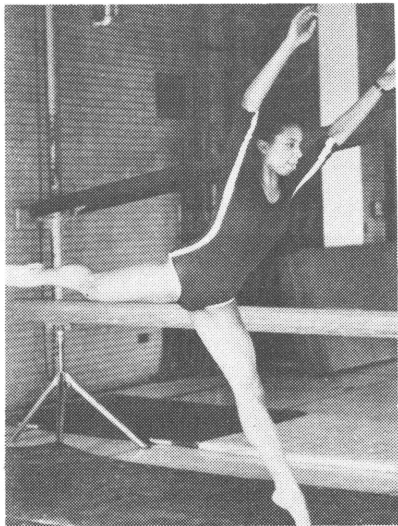
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Photos by
Chris
Newcomb

Gymnastics
team
members,
from left,
Adrienne
Collins,
Karyn
Morrison,
Jennifer
Fleming

Gymnasts find 2nd season tougher

By Jennifer Lim

After completing their premiere season last year undefeated, the gymnastics team found out this year what it's like to lose.

Concluding their season with a 2-3 record, the Maroons cited competition in more meets and tougher opponents as reasons for this season's losses.

"This season was tougher," returning team member Melissa Mack said, "because we had

5 meets instead of 4 like last year, and ended up going against 2 good teams we didn't compete against last year."

Discussing how team member responded to losing meets, gymnast Jennifer Fleming said, "When we lost to Resurrection, it didn't bother us because we tried hard and did the best we've ever done. When we lost to Unity we were upset because we lost mostly because nobody was psyched up for a

meet that day."

Despite the tough season, the team's attitude remained positive, many members felt. Returning team member Lisa Wyllie commented, "We were relaxed and confident because we all get along and had fun working together."

The team this season had home meets for the 1st time, which team members felt proved both an advantage and disadvantage. "Home meets

are good because it's easier to work on familiar equipment," Jennifer said. "There were also a lot of people at the meets to support."

But returning team member Cathy Yachnin pointed out a disadvantage. "You're under more pressure when you do beginning routines and they ex-

pect to see Nadias."

The Maroons compete at districts today at Hillcrest High. Meet scores, U-High 1st, are as follows:

Unity, Apr. 3, here, 79.80-79.35; Lake View, Apr. 5, there, 86.55-82.35; Resurrection, Apr. 6, there, 83.2-86.1; Unity, Apr. 10, there, 86.7-89.7; Taft, Apr. 12, there, 89.9-93.5; Lake View, Apr. 17, here, cancelled; Hyde Park Academy, Apr. 20, here, cancelled.

Coaches see hot spring seasons

By Sebastian Rotella

Strong returning players and substantial turnouts at practices will benefit the baseball, softball, tennis, track and swim teams this spring, their coaches feel.

"The talent we have out makes us flexible enough to move people around at different positions," said Lower School teacher Robert Strang, baseball team coach with Lower School teacher John Wilson. Eight members of the 15-man baseball team are returning players.

THE 18 GIRLS of the softball team are "very enthusiastic," according to coach Mary Busch. "My 4 returning players will give me my strength," Ms. Busch commented, "and the infield is very sound. I'm generally optimistic about their chances for the season."

The boys' tennis team "has shown genuine dedication in turning out for practice," according to coach Steve Kollross. The 18-man team's strength lies in doubles competition but the Maroons could use more depth in singles, Mr. Kollross felt.

Also citing large turnouts at practices, outdoor track coach Ron Drozd said, "The girls' team is all-around very tough. I definitely think 5 or 6 girls will go downstate. The boys' varsity is strong, especially in the middle distances, though it will be hampered by having only 6 members. The frosh-soph are a good mixture of returning members and new freshmen." For the first time, girls' districts will be hosted by U-High, Sat., May 12 at Stagg Field.

"OUR ONLY REAL weak point remains the distance freestyle," said swim coach Larry McFarlane. "Otherwise we're strong in sprints, backstroke and butterfly." Mr. McFarlane said he felt the swimmers are capable of placing among the top 6 teams at districts May 12.

Upcoming games for all spring sports are included in the calendar on page 5. Scores of previously unreported games will be published in the next issue of the Midway, May 15.



Instant Replay

By Richard Letchinger,
sports columnist

New Jerry West has brief career

WHAT DID I possibly think I was trying to prove? Just because I had been manager of the basketball team for a year, why should I know anything about coaching or really playing basketball? Well, here was my big chance: the annual basketball marathon Apr. 6 in Sunny Gym to benefit the sports program.

"Sure you can coach," said Clarence Bourne, traditional coach for our grade. So it was all set. I would co-coach.

On the day of the marathon, I got to Sunny Gym around 6 p.m., put on some shorts and immediately knew it: Jerry West reborn. Out on the court just before the game, John Bobrinsky looked me over, smiled, and said, "Letch, you don't mean to tell me you are really going to play."

All I could do was crack a smile back at him. The seniors were seeded to play the sophomores, with the winner playing the juniors, who had already decisively beat the freshmen. We opened the game with a quick 2 points, but were outscored in the 1st quarter 5-11. The beginning of the 2nd quarter, I went in, ready to spark my team to victory. But Jerry West died and as I came out I thought, I wonder why my feet feel like a war zone? Somebody pointed out my mistake, only one pair of socks. Damn, I thought, Jerry would have never made that mistake.

The half ended and we were down by 10. By the end of the 3rd quarter we were down by 17. Time to mean business, I thought. This was getting ridiculous. We were getting killed. We had to make a move. Jerry West? No, Clarence went in and we ended up only losing by 8, 35-43.

Oh, by the way, the juniors beat the sophomores 62-61 in the only good game of the whole marathon.

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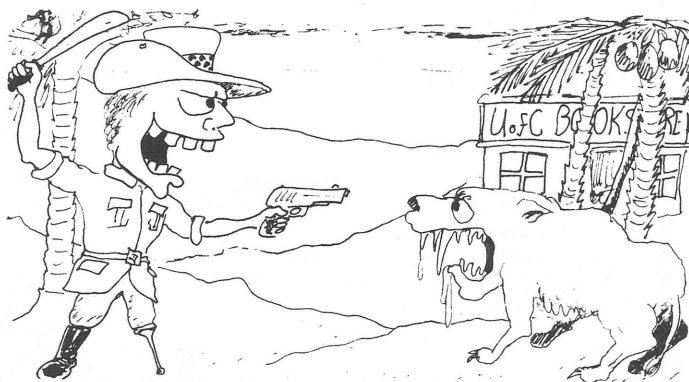
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