Triumphs and tears

By Matt Gerow, editor in chief
with David Hyman, associate editor
Track coach Ron Drozd walks somberly across the wet grass of the infield at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, accompanied by Natalie Pardo and Helen Straus, who holds the Maroons' second-place state title proudly in her arms. While the girls seem cheerful, Drozd's pained smile has lasted since he first realized the ended possibility of a first-place finish. Inside the fieldhouse, where runners relax and dry off after the rain, the rest of the team members recount their impressions of the race, laughing and joking with each other. Yet a touch of disappointment and regret filters through their conversation. Heidi Hackel had said the previous night, "Running for second just wouldn't be enough."

THROUGH TWO DAYS of intermittent torrents of rain and chilling cold Fri-Sat., May 16-17, the girls captured second place with 35 points, one small point behind Mahomet Seymour with 36. The Maroons' shot at victory rested in the relays, Drozd stocking them with his best runners and leaving individual races and events largely alone. As a result, Drozd theorized that morning, the girls had to complete 12 perfect baton passes that day to win the meet. It is Saturday morning. A throng of spectators, wised by yesterday's drenching rain, sport brightly-colored raingear, some wearing trash bags as makeshift raincoats.

Inside the fieldhouse after the race, the girls echo sense of disappointment fills their conversation, Liz Hackel wipes tears from her eyes as a teammate comforts her after the disqualification of their relay. BEATA GOODELL, Natalie Pardo, Liz and Heidi silently concentrate before the 800-meter medley relay. As the girls run out to embrace her in a tight hug, "That's it," the point value for first place.

As the 800-meter medley relay nears, the mood in U-High's contingent grows tense: Yesterday the team finished second behind Providence, believed to be a tough rival for the crown.

OUT IN THE STANDS, Drozd theorizes about Natalie's chances in the mile relay. "I think I like most about the meets is standing in the infield watching the last people coming in from the relays and the excitement of seeing we're going to win," he says. Above the noise of her teammates and other competitors, Beata Boodell hears the second call for the 800-meter relay, originally not scheduled to be run for another 45 minutes. As she tells the girls, they frantically argue that it can't be their call, then rush the team photographer through their picture, finally grabbing sweats and jogging out to the field. Standing in the rain waiting for Natalie's pass, Liz begins to move to her starting position, looks at Natalie and Heid, and says, "I think this will affect our next race," Beata comments. "But we can't let it." Out in the stands, Drozd theorizes about Natalie's 300-meter dash. "We need a third or better from her to tie or win, assuming we win the mile relay."

Natalie crosses the line dead even with another competitor, and while the results are announced, Drozd crosses his fingers. But the judges award Natalie victory rest in the relays, Drozd's pained smile has lasted since he first realized the ended possibility of a first-place finish.

About 100 yards away, in the stands, Drozd sits silently, staring into space. YET THE GIRLS disqualified from the race because of the dropped baton take their defeat together, all walking toward the fieldhouse, holding Liz's tears. "One good thing in our favor has got to be the way we get along together," Helen had said the night before. "We kind of have the same sense of humor," Heidi adds. "I don't think it's necessarily winning," Beata says. "It's that we all try to do the best we can."

But as THE MAROONS relax in the fieldhouse, a sense of disappointment fills their conversation, Liz sitting by herself, eyes blotted and watery. "I think this will affect our next race," Beata comments. "But we can't let it." As the girls inside head out for the last event, they are unaware of their point standing, concentrating on winning their last race. They walk in a group, quietly talking, giving each other restrained encouragement. "You've just got to think about the next race and not think about the last race." "Yeah," and Liz turns away silently, but returns to what she is doing.

The girls seem happy with their second-place finish, despite projections of first and the fact that if they hadn't been disqualified in the 800 medley, even just finished last, they would have won. But, as a Mahomet Seymour runner said after the dropped baton, "It just wasn't meant to be."
Noncollege plans include military

By Geoff Levner

Most seniors are making a usual year plan to go right to college, but a few have made other plans.

Nir Benjaimini, an Israeli citizen, will join the Israeli Army. Travellers include Jackie Katz, a three-year graduate, who plans to study at the Sorbonne in Paris for a year, then return to attend the University of Chicago. Vicki Maggio, another three-year graduate, who plans to travel in Europe in the fall and then study at the U. of C., and John Naidstik, who will be journeying in Southern France. Andrew Bradburn plans to work at a ski lodge in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Of seniors going straight to the colleges, of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and Illinois at Champaign-Urbana will get the most — seven each. By college, seniors have decided to attend school as follows:

- ANTIOCH, Yellow Springs, Ohio — Rhodes Minority. BELOIT, Wis. — Chris Vosch.
- BOWDOIN, Brunswick, Maine — Joel Lindhalm.
- BRANDEIS, Waltham, Mass. — Nicholas Streeter.
- CARNEGIE-MELLON, Pittsburgh — Dan Zellner.
- CHICAGO, Chicago, Ill. — James Kuhl.
- COLUMBIA, New York City — Michelle Green.
- ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, Chicago, Ill. — Matt Gerow.
- KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Paul Albright.
- LAKE FOREST, Lake Forest, Ill. — Website.
- MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, East Lansing — Josh Barton.
- NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, New York City — Michael Sorsen.
- PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia — Matt Adkins, Naomi Cohn.
- PRINCETON, N.J. — Leslie Taylor.
- REED, Portland, Ore. — Hillary Werhane.
- SMUDHURST, Los Angeles — Adam Simon.
- WISCONSIN, Madison — Scott Ruben.
- YALE, New Haven, Conn. — Hillary Werhane.
- YON, Gambler, N.Y. — Melba sauce.

Prom and graduation plans differ. Schools set their proms and graduation dates in the fall, so personal preferences usually determine attendance.

For example, Mike Glazer, a senior at Harvard, plans to attend the prom at Dartmouth and will go to Harvard for graduation. At the same time, he is planning to fly to a rock concert in Central Park.

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Renaissance
New magazine on sale this week
By Monica Davey
About 70 prints, poems, short stories, essays and musical compositions make up Renaissance, U-High's new art and literary magazine. It is schedu­led to hit the stands this week on the second floor land­mark for $1.50.
English teacher Sophie Ravin and Fine Arts De­partment chairperson Joan Koblick started the project in December.
"ONE THING so lacking at the school, considering how creative U-Highers are, is an outlet for their genius and talent to create," Ms. Ravin said.
"Much of school writing is artificial, assigned by a teacher to be read by another student who was told to write. But ideally, one writes be­cause one wants to make others listen. The point of Renaissance is to allow students to show what they want to an audience of their peers who listen because they want to." 

The most recent literary magazines published here were the Black Students Association's Onyx, last published in 1977, and Concept, last published in 1971.
Ms. Ravin and Ms. Koblick organized two staffs for Renaissance, literary and art, as follows:
Katherine - Michael Allen; Craig Mccornick; Michael McNamara; Sarah Morrison; Maria Muller; Rhonda Stavroek; English teach­ers
Paint - Carol Fos, Beth Faske, Ms. Rakoff
EIGHTY-EIGHT works of literature and 65 pieces of art were submitted to the staffs after an­nouncements about the magazine were posted this winter. The literary staff selected about 20 works for publication and the art staff about 30 etchings and block printings.
"We're only including prints," Ms. Koblick said, "because the emphasis during winter quarter in arts classes was on printmaking, since we had a printmaker-in-residence."
The magazine largely is going to be funded through gifts by alumni who were involved in literary magazines here. They include:
Ms. Geraldine Benfield-Alexander, Ms. Janet Fuller Randy; Mr. Edward Ehringaun; Mr. Mr. Edward Case; and Mr. Eliza­beth Rickets Palmer; 28.
Mr. Robert Rosenbacher, father of junior Joel, donated the services of his printing company for the 29 etchings, and the Parents' Association and parent contributions will also be used.
Members of Renaissance's editorial staffs be­lieve the magazine is high quality. "Because the art work is in color, the prints and the poems are so creative, this issue is enjoy­able to look at and worthwhile to read," Ms. Kob­lick said.
Ms. Koblick hopes a second issue of Renaissance can be published next year. "I hope we can open it up to more types of art and literature — photo­graphy, drawing, perhaps science or math proj­ects — anything that's creative, original work," she said.

Three couples dance 11 hours
EIGHTEEN couples, including Sam Avichai and Ku­ma, and And­rea Youngblood and Paul Scollin, braved Cultural Union's 11-hour dance mara­thon noon-11 p.m., May 25 in the cafeteria. By 11 p.m., three couples were left and awarded prizes by faculty and student judges as follows:
About 125 people attended an all-school party which started 11:30 p.m. Junior Alan King played disc jockey.

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Union keeps plans secret
By David Straus
Salary increase, improved working conditions and more fringe benefits are among issues the Faculty Association, the Laboratory Schools' teach­ers' union, plans to include in proposals to the University in negotiations for a new contract. Librarian Mary Biblo, Association chairman, would not say specifically what the union would propose.
"We simply don't want to ex­pose what's in the package be­fore we present it," she ex­plained.

In negotiations for this year's contract the Association won a 7% per cent increase after more than a month of job actions. The union originally had proposed a 15 per cent in­crease.
Although she said earlier she hoped negotiations would be completed before school ends, Ms. Biblo said, "I'm going to be realistic. It's not going to be fin­ished before June 13. We'll just have to wait and see. Summer vacation is long, however long it takes."

For the second year, the union will use a professional ne­gotiator, as the University has since 1977. Mr. McFarlane has drawn in 1974. The Associa­tion's executive board recom­mended attorney Gilbert Corn­field, father of sophomore Tom, and the following negotiations team:
Ms. Biblo, science teacher Murray Ha­likin, math teacher Howard Shadour, Mid­dle School teacher Nola Mead and political science teacher Susan Davis and Dana Schult.

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• A year of action and achievement

There’s still problems here, but less complaining and more doing

In its first editorial this year, the Midway encouraged people who felt the school needed improvement not just to complain, but to get involved in making U-High better. As the school year comes to a close, it’s evident a lot of people did get involved.

The Student Legislative Coordinating Council (SLCC), after a slow start, probably accomplished the most in planning and achieving a series of worthwhile projects. They included a monthly newsletter, new student rights and studies (a real Bill of Rights involving the faculty and student body would have been better), a discussion on the draft, student-mentoring, Concern Line referrals, and more organized government elections and a proposal for a more balanced finals schedule. A large voter turnout for the elections indicated SLCC was successfully changing the image of student government from unimportant to important.

CULTURAL UNION, with its continuing habit of rescheduling or cancelling events, wasn’t as successful. The Student-Faculty Advisory Board, in a trial year, took itself seriously, though other people didn’t always.

After years of student and parent complaints about lack of health education in the school, particularly on drugs and sex, principal Geoff Jones took action in the absence of faculty movement on the matter and formed a Student-Health-Health Education Committee. The result of its work will be new health units in phys ed classes beginning next year, and a variety of other programs.

But some complaints remained just complaints. The attendance system still isn’t working; students are still cutting and being late to class; seniors are still experiencing slump; students are still punching out cold titles for walls, leaving a mess in the cafeteria and misbehaving enough that it bothers a lot of people.

THE MIDWAY played its own part in the school picture this year, exonerating the biases, spotting school events, featuring students with newsworthily interests, talents or achievements. And success. Problems. There are more problems per page this year. As usual, the paper was criticized as being negative or inaccurate. Basically, the editors simply were covering the good and bad without judging it as good or bad, but as news. The followup sheets sent out after each issue indicate about a 95 percent accuracy, though a few accuracy errors were made.

Like almost every year, U-High experienced a lot of successes: Numerology, best debaters and Achievement finalists, sports championships, outstanding drama productions. People don’t talk nearly as much about them as about the problems, and maybe that’s a problem that needs working on, too.

- u-high midway -

Student newspaper of University High School, 5100 East 59th Place, Chicago, Ill. 60637. Published 10 times during the school year, approximately every three to four weeks, Tuesday, by journalism students in consultation with the journalism teacher. The editors assume sole responsibility for content. Editors represent the opinion of the students on editorial and reporting.

1979-80 STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF - Spring quarter, Matt Goren; fall and winter quarters, John Atwood

ASSOCIATE EDITORS - David Hyman, Jennifer Lim, Kate Davey, Avery Berger, Matthew Gerow, Kevin Stone, Dodi Lieberman

PAGES EDITOR - This issue, Matt Goren, 1st; Jennifer Lim, 2nd; Kate Davey, 3rd

DEPARTMENT EDITORS - EDITORIALS: John Schnarr, Columnist, Sebastian Newcomb; LETTERS: Adam Simon; ARTS: COLORFULISTS: David Hyman, Kate Davey; DEPARTMENTS: Special Editors - Political and Government: John Schnarr, David Long, Student community; Kathleen Warman, Student opinion; Marketing: Ava Fichtenholtz, Business Staff - Business Manager, Becke Savel; Advertising: Mark E. Coates, Carole Danielson, Susan Renshaw

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ADVISER - Mr. Wayne Bressler

Award winners: Outstanding Colorfulists, Avalon Cera Corporation, and four printers, Regional Printing Company, for their help in producing this year’s issue.

The year in review

...the year in review...

...some conclusions about concluding...

Non Sequiturs

By Sebastian Rotella, Midway columnist

OFTEN DURING my first two years at U-High I would wander the rapidly emptying halls of the school after 3:15. As janitors swept up classrooms and locked up doors, I would walk these areas, unpectorcularly looking for action, entertainment, diversion. Idly hoping some captivating new person or thing would pop up from nowhere to catch my attention. That rarely happened.

What always struck me about those times was how difficult it seemed for me to leave. This was particularly curious because I invariably spent the previous part of the day impatiently awaiting the end of classes and entrapment.

I FEEL SIMILARLY now. On one hand, four years are finally ending. Senior slump, May Project, the end, once seemed so far away. Now, they’re here. But on the other hand, there’s a strange melancholy, a persisting attraction to this place, which somehow continues in the face of the triumphant celebration.

This dual feeling comes partly from my gradual realization that you can appreciate and respect U-High for much the same reasons. Because its strengths and weaknesses largely derive from the same cause: the objective of the institution. Basically, this school aims to produce individuals who will, as one teacher colorfully terms it, go out into the world “kicking ass and taking names.” Individuals who will independently achieve and succeed. This intent explains the mammoth workload, the independence you’re given in academic and personal self-regulation, the time-demanding extracurricular activities, all that good stuff.

On one hand, four years are finally ending... but on the other hand, there’s a strange melancholy, a persisting attraction to this place...

THE RESULT? People who make a strenuous effort in many areas — academic, social, athletic. Many people who excel. Many who are aware they excel. In general, a place where individuals invest a lot in some thing or another, be it books, basketball or bonging.

And there are times when there’s just too much effort, and too much tension. So the memories are mixed.

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And there are times when there’s just too much effort, and too much tension. So the memories are mixed.
By Gene Scalise

"To huth," the coach queries, punctuated by his cigar. "Yeah, just don't let 'em in."

Two decades after he began coaching soccer and basketball and teaching physical education and driver's ed at U-High, Sandy Patlak, 42, often finds himself in his Sunny Gym office. Chuckling, joking, frowning, shouting, he models and philosophizes about himself, U-High, U-Highers and life in general.

CLAD IN MAROON shorts and grey jersey, Patlak is surrounded by memories of his years here. Trophies, clipplings and a program cover walls and desk.

"I am a street man here," he says of his presence at U-High. "When someone makes you aware of what's going on out there it makes it a lot easier. And I been there."

Born on the North Side in 1958, Patlak played football, tennis and basketball as a kid. "Athletics kept me outa trouble," he observes. "I was too busy on so damn many teams to get in any trouble."

In the eight years between his graduation from Evanston High School and his first teaching job in Clissna Park, Illinois, Patlak served in the Merchant Marines, attended Wright Junior College, worked in the Army, served as athletics director in the Air Force, and attended the University of Illinois, from which he graduated on his wedding day.

Patlak is the father of three girls. While teaching here, he also at various times has run a restaurant, worked for Flax Trucking, managed several swimming pools and developed a program for sports-minded kids with reading difficulties. First in his heart is being a teacher.

Moving across the haze of smoke which has long since filled the room, Patlak lifts a plaque from the wall. It is the Illinois Soccer Coaches Association 1979 Coach of the Year award.

"There have been kids who had problems. I got to know them so well. By the end, they'd cry, "I love you, coach.""

He feels there is still a need for that relationship. In some ways it was one of the best things that happened to me."

The victory was decided by a 4-5 record, 4-6 overall. "I thought the team we sent in every match concentrating as hard as they could," said first singles player Tim Wilkins. "We had intensity on every point."

Off the court, the Maroons finished second in state. "They had stacks and stacks of trophies. You wanna see trophies? You wanna show schools we're proud. Not just in academics. In athletics. We're good. We're great. We were never second class," Kerr added.

As the cars drive by the wide grass expanse of the 47th street field, baseball players talk about winning their final game, against Francis Parker, May 23. "In some ways it was one of the best seasons of the season. But in others it was one of the most disappointing," said catcher Boble Hamel. "The first two rounds were disappointing."

"But in the mile relay, several of us did our best times, which was nice to see."

"Coach didn't have to worry about getting along with these kids. He asked them to be respectful, and they were," Coach McFaddan said.

"When he comes back, we mess up."

"The best things that happened to me was..." Quinn said. "I was there.

"You try something with a kid and it may not work right away. But when he comes back and tells you the picture you drew was there..."

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"You try something with a kid and it may not work right away. But when he comes back and tells you the picture you drew was there..."
SUROUNDED by her fairy helpers, Queen Titania (Beth Browning) haughtily informs Oberon (Steve Taylor) that he may not take her adopted boy as his henchman, in the May Festival play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," presented Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

THOUGH RAINED out Thursday night (the rain ended in time for the play), the Rites of May drew a crowded courtyard Friday, including 4th-grade popcorn magnate Kate Grossman, top, and enthusiastic maestro Ralph Abernathy conducting a Middle School band.

DANCERS, junior barbers and gougers also gathered at the May Festival. From top left:
ANDREA GHEZ, Anne Weiner and Megan Storing perform the traditional May Pole dance.
YOUNGSTERS concentrate on giving balloons a clean shave, often with messy results.
BLAKE Minnertly shovels in a taco.

Photos by Geoff Levner

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DRESSED UP in traditional cowboy garb, a Lower Schooler pauses for a cotton candy I... Feet need to breathe, too...

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Dancers