As the weather gets warmer, U-Highers clear their closets of sweaters and down coats to replenish their wardrobe with the bright colors and provocative styles of spring. In familiar places around town some of U-High's most beautiful girls and handsome guys show off the latest fashion trends.

**Kickin' it After**

Amber Stroud and Junior Mario McHarris have one thing in common: great clothes from Untitled. Testing 3-D glasses in their new spring styles, Lisa wears a Lush halter top, $12.95 and white Dollhouse pants, $40.95. Paul is in a Pervert hat, $19.95, Panorama button down shirt, $12.95 and Eurofunk ultra wide skate pants, $55.95. Amber sports a green Serious jacket, $47.95. Absolute Pervert T-shirt, $14.95 and Lush miniskirt and Mario has on a Mossimo collared V-neck shirt, $35 and Diesel jeans, $92.

GEARED UP FOR an afternoon at the Lakefront after spending long winter days indoors, Junior Mai Lynn Grajewski receives a helping hand from Freshman Ryan Beck. Dressed to enjoy the warm weather in clothes from Londo Mondo, Mai Lynn wears a sleeveless Carushka zip turtleneck, $32.95, Carushka stretch pants, $48.95 and K2 Flight 76 in line skates, $199.95 and Ryan is dressed in a Fiction T-shirt, $18.95 and Hangers cargo pants, $58.95.
New schedule restores earlier dismissal to school

By ALEX ZAMAR
Editor-Chief

U-Highers who have been arriving home an hour or more later than last year because of the 3:20 p.m. dismissal time will be happy to know last year’s 3:15 dismissal will be nearly restored next year.

Principal Hanna Goldschmidt’s final schedule draft, presented to department chairpersons at a meeting April 3, establishes a 3:20 dismissal in recognition of commuting students who have had to take later trains home. Under Mr. Goldschmidt’s plan, the present late start on Thursdays will be eliminated but the much-loved activity period after lunch Thursdays retained. The plan includes a new weekly all-school meeting period but an earlier plotted 10-minute daily morning break has been dropped in favor of the earlier dismissal.

Meeting on how to schedule classes around the needs of students, a faculty committee with representatives from each of the Lab Schools components met with Mr. Rod Snelling of International School Management consultants last month. Mrs. Susan Shapiro, history, and Mr. Paul Gynt, math, are representing the High School.

“We’re rethinking the class schedule and working around the needs of the students.”

Best of the best

Renaissance again wins both top magazine honors

For the second consecutive year, Renaissance, U-High’s art and literary magazine, has won both the top honors for overall excellence offered by two national school press associations.

The National Scholastic Press Association announced its Pacemaker Award for the 99th edition at a national convention last week in Phoenix, Arizona. The Columbia Scholastic Press Association announced its Gold Crown Award at a national convention last month in New York City.

Both awards were given to high school magazines from several hundred entered for consideration. The Pacemaker is the 13th in the U-High magazine’s 35-year history. The winning edition was edited by Shana Mendoza, Claire Raunak and Paulette Youssefzadeh, all seniors last year. The magazine’s advisory is Mrs. Joan Koblik, art, and Mr. Steve Parver, literary.

In the current issue of the Student Press Review, Columbia’s quarterly magazine, Mrs. Koblik’s magazine committee discusses the evolution of art and literary magazines.

“Through 17 years of experience with the mechanics of judging,” Mrs. Koblik writes, “we have learned that the evaluation procedure along with the quality of the work are of utmost importance to the success and popularity of a magazine at the senior high school level.

“Students must perceive that their work and their fellow students’ work are handled with appropriate sensitivity and impartiality, courtesy and consideration, and that the evaluation procedure is carried out with a minimum of stress and even less publicity.”

SPINACH LASAGNE, Caesar Salad, French Bread, carrot cake, chocolate cake and fresh strawberries delicately encouraged conversation at a senior class luncheon April 10 in Ida Noyes Hall with members of the Lab Schools Board. The luncheon was part of a series of special senior events. Among those who participated were Board Member Ralph Muller and Senior Matt Anderson.

Seniors enjoy special events

By NADER KHIRBEK
Associate Editor

A new luncheon for the Lab Schools Board April 10, seniors are now looking forward to another day of paintball fun shooting, May 18, part of a series of special events planned by class officers and History Teacher Susan Shapiro, senior advisor, to give 12th grade a more special experience.

The class has been sponsoring a class breakfast in the lounge the third Thursday of each month. For a “Spirit Week” March 3-7, Mrs. Shapiro brought in a psychic to do palm readings and organized bingo games with prizes.

“We’ve been trying to organize a lot of little activities to gradually build up students’ interest in attending,” said Senior President Win Boulasayong. “We saw that the people who went on the first paintball trip had a lot of fun and the people who didn’t go were interested in going. So we decided to carry on.”

Mrs. Shapiro also engineered making the Senior Class money. I always wanted to do a school event and Senior Class Day officially recognized and including a parent-sponsored brunch. Some seniors unhappy about the developments, among others, recently presented a petition to Principal Hannah Goldschmidt to remove her as class advisor.

While recognizing not all students in the class have approved everything she has done in two years as class advisor, Mrs. Shapiro said, “I’m so proud of the Class of 1997 collectively. This task has been my labor of love. My ultimate goal is to have the seniors miss this school when they graduate because they know someone cared.”

Group seeks to build student power

By KAREEM SALL
Editor-in-Chief

A newly created Student Empowerment Committee will focus on recruiting underclassmen members and training candid discussions with administrators in the upcoming meeting April 10.

Initially suggested by Communications Committee Co-Chairperson Mark Hoffman, a senior, the Student Empowerment Committee has evolved from what originally was a committee focusing on establishing an expanded Honor Code; in an on-going forum designed to give students a voice in policy making at U-High.

AMONG THE tentative goals presented by Mark include the following:

Revise the present Honor Code in accordance of the Code of Conduct in the High School Handbook.

Creation of a Honor Council to administer the codes of conduct, advise administrators regarding disciplinary cases.

Organizing required course work for all students in U-High classes.

Selection of a student body representative for all comprehensive school faculty meetings and administrative discussions which have the potential to affect student life.

The committee may announce other goals later.

Senior Camrose, assistant director of the Student Union, “We need to invite the students, teachers and administration at 10 high. Ultimately what we’re looking to do is ease tension through communication.”

The faculty was told of the new committee at its April 1 meeting and urged to keep informed.

‘Alice’ dream comes true

Playing Alice, the little British girl who wanders down a rabbit hole into Wonderland, is a childhood fantasy come true, said Junior Vanessa Carr. She has been cast in the title role for the Rites of May play, which combines elements of two world-beloved Lewis Carroll stories, “Alice in Wonderland” and “Through the Looking Glass,” Thursday, May 15-Saturday, May 17. “When I was a little girl watching the Disney movie, I always wanted to be Alice,” Vanessa recalled. “Now I’m like, wow! I really do get to be her!”

About 40 U-Highers turned out for tryouts last month. Half were chosen for the acting roles, and many of those not acting are working on the technical aspects of the production.

“There are a lot of parts to the play,” explained Sophomore Karla Landerekovski, assistant director, “so Mr. Ambroz decided to have a smaller ensemble and break up all the roles instead of having a huge cast by assigning each role to a different person.”

‘Alice’ previously was presented at the Rites in 1978. Members of the ensemble are as follows:

Headed for White House

Senior justice Morrison is among 500 semifinalists in the 1997 Presidential scholarship program, selected from 8,500 applicants nationwide among two-and-a-half million high school seniors. From the semifinalists will come as many as 40 Scholars. The program annually recognizes outstanding high school seniors in the arts, academics, and community involvement. The seniors are being recognized to develop college and career opportunities and to attend the University of Washington to take courses or participate in activities required by the University of Washington’s admissions and scholarship programs and to meet the President and other govern-

Senior wins state honor

Honor is a banquet in Blinnigar, Senior Class Council is a recognition, National Honor Society and Blinnig- has national honors society, will be inducted into the National Honor Society and later, will be inducted into the National Honor Society at Blinnigar. This ornament is three classes that are selected. All members of the National Honor Society have the same qualifications in all classes.

U.N. team heads Northward

Representing Pakistan, the Seychelles Islands and Western Samoa, 11 Model United Nations teams plans to finish up their year at the University of Washington conference March 5-7.

A newsletter also mentions the U.N. team that heads Northward as being one of the best delegations. It is really serving as a preparatory conference for the U.N. team.

Berkshire's conference

March 5-15: March 5-15, 500 members of the club hope to continue their mission of more than 150 years.

Berkshire awards are as follows:


Berkshire's annual meeting will be on March 5-15. This conference, which is a Berkshires conference, was held in March 5-15, 500 members of the club to continue their mission of more than 150 years.

Sciences spell out E-R-E-S-P-E-C-T

How to gain respect in male-dominated field was among topics addressed by prominent female scientists April 12 at the University of Massachusetts. Three women supported by the U. S. National Research Foundation, the newest suburban Darien which nine U-High students attended.

Keeping it serious

Keeping it serious at the University of Massachusetts, Science and Engineering Center, which is a science and engineering center, was held in March 5-15, 500 members.

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Science team 14th at State

Building a wooden bridge is a testament to durability, 14 Sci.

ote at the University of Massachusetts, Science and Engi

ergizing March 19 at the University of Massachusetts, Science and Engineering Center, which is a science and engineering center, was held in March 5-15, 500 members.

"We weren't really ready for the Regional competition," said one of the four students, "but we're ready now, and we're going to show what we're made of." Taking tests as subjects as Engineering Graphics and Computer Science, four students earned 9th place at the University of California, San Diego and 12th place at the University of California, Los Angeles (Wyatt).

Berkshire's regional competition in the state SWNE included the following: JINNOH, JINNOH, HODAI, JINNOH, HODAI, and HODAI.

Midway tops state awards

The Midway topped all newspapers in the awards program. The Midway topped all newspapers in the awards program.

The best students are the winners of an annual high school journalism recognition program sponsored by the University of Oregon. The awards were announced at a luncheon May 19 at the University of Oregon.

SAY STORY

"I am so proud of what the Midway has done in recent years. We have seen some proudest journalism. I am really happy for your story last year on U-Highers pursuing healthy diets.

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To the Midway and the University of Oregon, "we have been proud to have our names included in the prestigious awards program that is sponsored by the University of Oregon.

Winston.

"I am so proud of what the Midway has done in recent years. We have seen some proudest journalism. I am really happy for your story last year on U-Highers pursuing healthy diets.

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Discussion group underway

BY SEETHA SRINIVASAN

Despite doubts by many students and faculty members that it could ever get off the ground, the school's long-talked-about lesbian and gay discussion group sponsored its first meetings April 8 and April 14 to begin planning.

After years of talk but no action about such a group, Senior Mollie Stone stepped forward and initiated a meeting in March led by representatives of Horizon Community Services and attended by about 50 juniors and seniors and a few faculty members.

"I THINK THE FIRST" discussion group went extremely well even though students and teachers were forced to face a scary realization that there was a lot of tension and perhaps even anger present," Mollie told the Midway. A Student Council representative, she received Council endorsement for her plan.

"After the meeting many students came up to me and expressed a desire to begin a weekly discussion group on sexuality," Mollie said. "Yet I thought it would highly impress me if students would get their act together and actually start the group. I think because many students at Lab lack the motivation necessary to take responsibility for organizing the school activities they desire to take part in. Especially one as controversial as this."

A second discussion meeting followed the first. MANY U-HIGHERS willing to actively take part in such a group have expressed concern such an organization cannot exist without faculty support. Several faculty members have indicated they would be willing to help the group or even advise it.

"I think this new idea is a great one but it is extremely homophobic," said Foreign Language Teacher Randel Fowler. "Kids need to start the group on their own, yet they do have the willing support of faculty and administration. It is not the job of the teachers to establish these groups, but to help and with their support. Though this is a very delicate issue things have improved over the years, two years ago this topic could not even be spoken about at Lab."

Parent support for group has varied. At the Diana Woo Multiculturalism Seminar earlier this year parents recommended the school do more to nurture gay students. But other parents have expressed alarm at the school even allowing discussion of the subject. Discussions in sophomores and freshman advisories offered separately from the junior-senior program have particularly worried some parents.

"I CAN understand why such meetings could generate so many emotions at these particular grade levels," observed Mrs. Brenda Stewart, High School Parents' Council cochairperson. "Such meetings for sophomores should be highly optional. I have an objection with requiring kids to attend and deal with issues that are unnecessary at their age."

"It's not as simple as getting information. It might sound good on the surface but not everyone is comfortable with these topics. I also believe that this advisory discussion stirred up something and left the students with no closure, which is not healthy."

Though the school boasts a diverse culture, many U-Highers feel when it comes to dealing with homosexuality the school has proven reluctant.

"FROM THE SOPHOMORE program I realized how negative my grade is and how difficult it is for anyone to come out in the school," said a girl who identifies herself as bisexual and asked to remain anonymous. "My grade did not listen and the surroundings were filled with negativity. People need to be educated from a younger age when they are easily impressionable and can grow up learning and accepting that it is not wrong. People are born with their sexual feelings. You don't choose to be gay or lesbian."

"It's not as simple as getting information. It might sound good on the surface but not everyone is comfortable with these topics. I also believe that this advisory discussion stirred up something and left the students with no closure, which is not healthy."

Glory bound

WAITING IN THE COLD in front of school before setting off for Sunday services at Trinity United Church of Christ, 400 West 95th St., March 16, German exchange students Max Stockl and Gonca Aksan and Ms. Christa Fux, a teacher, eagerly anticipated the South Side community's first German church service.

At the city's St. Etienne, Oberhoh and Paderborn, 17 exchange students became part of the U-High community March 12 through mid-April. They stayed with U-High families.

"The students here are more silent in class and the lessons are not as difficult but are longer," observed visitor Norbert Kneivel. "I like the fact that there are clubs here and I think it's good that the classes are smaller because everyone gets a chance to speak and teachers are available to talk to."

A group of French exchange students are here through the end of the week.
NOT JUST FOR HOME

BY KARI OLSON
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

I t's a beautiful spring day, the sun is shining and school's out. A senior boy walks down 57th Street, past the park and the Medici and enters Regenstein Library. He drops his bag in his favorite seat by the window and settles down to spend another night studying. "I spend any where from two to four hours a day in here," said Senior Victor Chiu from his perch at a computer in Regenstein library. "It's not exactly my favorite place, I'd much rather have a job or work on my photography than spend all my time holed up in here after school. But, I have homework to do and it has to get done sometime."

THE POPULAR IDEAL of high school as a time where the most important lessons are learned in the classroom, doesn't quite fit the world of many U-Highers. Instead of having after-school jobs, enjoying their hobbies, or spending time with friends, many U-Highers say that they spend a large portion of their day working on their homework, often studying until two or three in the morning. These students who do take part in outside activities often find themselves pressed to find time for all of their commitments.

"I had about 10 hours a week and often don't get home until nine. The two nights before my history final I didn't sleep at all, I had to stay so I could pass. It's not always bad but I've seriously thought about quitting my job. It just gets to be too much sometimes."

While many teachers try to restrict the amount of homework they give to their students to an hour a night, the work often piles up on those students who are taking a heavy course load or have teachers who assign lengthy assignments.

"I KNOW my students have a lot to do, but I'm here to make sure they learn," said History Teacher Susan Shapiro. "If that means they occasionally have to do some real work for my class, so be it. To do well in history you really have to read a lot and get at a topic from several different vantage points. The students who put forth the most effort are the ones who get the most out of the class."

Not everyone, however, feels that students should be forced to sacrifice involvement in outside activities in order to keep up with their classes.

"Some educational leaders feel the nation needs to return to the educational style of the '50s and '60s, which attempted to develop the whole person rather than just preparing people for college," said Journalist Teacher Wayne Bresler.

"Young people learn lifelong lessons in after school jobs and other activities. We may be erring in concentrating on producing scholars..."

Teachers Do It, Too

BY ALIX ZAMAR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

W hether your teacher is spending hours grading papers, writing recommendations or preparing for tomorrow's class, chances are he or she is doing it on his or her own time. Yes, teachers have homework, too. Although it is not graded, this homework takes just as much effort and patience as the student kind, faculty members say. Many of them spend most of their evenings at home preparing for the next day's classes and grading student work.

Spending more than 25 hours a week on work outside of school, Science Teacher David Derbes feels being a teacher requires an intense commitment people outside the profession may not realize.

"I HAVE friends who say I have three benefits that come with being a teacher—June, July and August," Mr. Derbes said.

"Teaching here, it feels like you do a year's worth of work in nine months. This year I had to do a dozen early college recommendations, spending up to three hours a recommendation."

Between what she describes as her "two fulltime jobs," teaching and being a parent of five, History Teacher Susan Shapiro worries that the image she is giving her children is that of a workaholic who spends most of her time on grading.

"GRADING IS MORE like studying: it is deadly horrible," said Mrs. Shapiro. "I read every paper about three times and it ends up being about an hour per paper."

To make their efforts more efficient as well as rewardingly collaborative, English teachers work together when they can.

"The English Department works very well together," Mr. John
CHICAGO MAGAZINE missed what makes us us

Schools At The Top Inside the elite world of Latin, Parker and Lab trumpeted the better line at the top of Chicago Magazine's April issue. Inside the story by Cynthia Hanson promised an "analysis of what's so good about the best" of "Our Own Private Ivy League." All the public relations money in the world couldn't have given the Lab Schools the picture-perfect impression Chicago Magazine presented. But in a story that got U-High's love for achievement and excellence right, it totally missed the school's equal love for individualism and doing things its way. It's that one-of-a-kind school that makes our school much more than just a hive of worker bees. There's a kind of crazy joy born-an addiction to trying too hard and doing too much and complaining constantly about it and a sense of community and family the Chicago Magazine story only hinted at. For as the story about the school falling at two places, home and school, than it is to enjoying our teenage years. Also adding to the shifting homework expectations are teachers who often have no idea what goes on in classes other than their own. For students this lack of knowledge means often having to tackle several major assignments in one weekend or even two.

ALTHOUGH U-HIGH has been praised for its demanding curriculum, teachers need to realize a limit exists to how much students can do and still live healthy and enjoyable lives. At 6 a.m. when the pager buzzed, he knew he'd have to cut classes off before he lost his mind. By 9 a.m., students were in their desks, and the first one to get out of his mind was an author. Few of the students who claimed to have anything to say in high school again.

I t seems like everything gets normal around here, someone decides to invent a problem. Of all the possible or impossible maladies to tackle, the attention of U-High's faculty has now turned to the ill of grade inflation. Of course, no one actually has any evidence that grade inflation is widespread or even going on at all. But that's okay. Grade inflation is a minor problem in the way of a faculty determined to pseudo-reform anything they can get their hands on.

GRADE INFLATION paranoia has stricken like a cancer story. Teachers are nervously worrying that prestigious colleges aren't able to distinguish between U-Highers who are extraordinary and those who received good grades due to inflation. But in the words of the fictional inspector Dr. Won, "There's only one thing wrong with that theory...it's stupid." Just because many U-Highers might look similar on paper, that's only one part of an academic picture. There may be many students with 4.0 GPAs who haven't taken the number of Advanced Placement Courses or challenged themselves to the degree that others have. In addition, college also base their decisions on standards more than scores, extracurricular activities and essays that applicants submit.

THE FACT IS, if U-Highers are getting better grades, it's because they've earned them. Ultimately, if grade inflation was a problem, nearly seven percent of the senior class wouldn't be on academic probation. So if we're going to invent something to discuss, at least let's make it something interesting.

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Paper Chase

Who learns when paper rules the schedule?

I NEVER THOUGHT I would see the day I would be appointed by a Mighty Mighty Bosstones album.

Unfortunately, that day came with the release of the band’s seventh album, “Let’s Face It” (Merrcury).

THE PROBLEM lies in their songs. Their style, a mix of music they invented eight years ago.

One of the late bands is under the eighteenth place.

Witty Trash
Kareem Saleh

I thought I had uncovered a conspiracy when all three times I received a patent answer.

“We need to cover certain material by the end of the year,” I was told.

“I have to follow our schedules closely so on occasion the extra time isn’t there.”

THAT WOULD be fine if U-Highers were programmable computers. Even though many U-Highers are extremely bright and accelerate,
it’s safe to say that most of them are in fact human, with human limitations.

When schedules dictate what’s taught courses are no longer geared towards students, rather towards a piece of inanimate paper.

The recent article in the April issue of Chicago Magazine (which was a mighty piece of work I’ve ever seen) proclaimed that “U-High’s virtual reality is by far the most rigorous of the three schools (Latin and Parker).” But when entire classes aren’t passing their tests, maybe we’ve become to rigorous for our own good.

Time to clean up our act and our school.

WE COMPLAIN about the zoo reachas we find in our locker clothing on our books and through our jackets. We talk about the mice we see running through the cafeteria finding where behind the big blue garbage cans and recycling bins.

Many of us refuse to use the High School bathrooms because of the stench coming from the worst area, trying to time our deposits perfectly so we go to the bathrooms only at home.

BUT HONESTLY, folks, can we be complainning when it is our fault.

Take the controversial third floor landing, for example.

Besides that the facts those sitting in the lounge disrupt classes, despite being told to be quiet by teachers numerous times, the current condition is inexcusable.

ABOUT A DOZEN slashes through the maroon-colored seat-backs have been so carelessly made, leaving the stuffing to empty into the wooden benches filled with food, drinks and random papers people sitting there have no clamp to throw away.

(I can’t get over the fact of the sophomores in particular saying the lounge was closed without warrants.

Even in classrooms where learning is supposed to take place, we divert our attention from the teacher and write little notes on the desks, or draw random faces which just pop in our heads.

BUT THE cafeteria is the most popular of the worst area in the school. After people finish eating, they just throw away the plastic bags, containers and whatever remaining food there may be. Even the tables that are right next to the garbage cans, we’re taking a foot or two away, still have garbage left.

WE’re at a prestigious high school and most of us are smart kids but looking at our school it seems like only geniuses know how to keep themselves clean.

So until we start cleaning up ourselves, we should stop pointing fingers and just accept the fact we live in a roach haven.

Write Us!

Providing a marketplace of ideas is one of the Midway’s major purposes. Your letters to the editor are welcomed. You can place them in the Journalism mailbox in the U-High Office. Please sign your letter. Share your opinions through the Midway’s marketplace and get in print!

Weak look at teen girls

DON’T JUDGE a book by its cover. The advice has never rung more true than when describing Mary Pipher’s “Reviving Ophelia” ($12.50, Putnam, 1994).

The beautiful yet deprived-looking girl on the jacket of this book provides an attractive draw but ultimately proves a deceptive ploy to convince unsuspecting readers to shell out $12.50 for an unworthy analysis of lives of adolescent girls.

Author and Psychiatrist Mary Pipher attempts to show parents through accounts of adolescent’s lives the level of sexism in our world today. Her wild, disorganized, and disjointed opinions detract from her main point.

PIPER HAS written each chapter with different structures. She establishes an order to follow within her first page consisting of descriptions of problems and explanations of it but then this plan is abandoned as she begins to bring in specific cases and her own experiences.

This muddles the writing, to say the least.

In an attempt to open the eyes of our society to the oppression of adolescents with unjustified complaints and accusations, “Reviving Ophelia” is underserving of rave reviews it has received.

Page Turner
Ariel Gibbons

The Stately Life

By Patrick Sellers

Come here with a white nightcap

Thought you might like to see this

Came here without

Harvard said no... now what?
MAKING THE GRADE
Is inflation a genuine problem here?

BY RACHEL SHAPIRO

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The beginning of an advanced algebra problem reads: "A teacher finds that, due to an unusually difficult test, her students' grades are low and need to be reevaluated. A 100 will remain a 100, but a 65 will become an 80." While this scenario is only part of a simple math problem, many teachers feel that it accurately describes the grades of many U-Highers. Because they say of the level of difficulty of coursework here, and the expectations of a tuition-paying parent body, many teachers grade leniently, some only giving As and Bs.

"We were presented information in Faculty IV that came from the Guidance Department which said that 50 percent of the student body had a 3.5 grade average or above," said History Teacher Earl Bell. "We have a wonderful student body, however, I don't think the student body can sustain that kind of grade average. If this is in fact true, it suggests a kind of grade inflation that would make it hard for colleges to take us seriously." Mr. Bell introduced grade inflation as topic for discussion at the faculty's February meeting.

History Teacher Chris Janus suggested the school needed to consider its definition of grades, particularly its definition of a C as an average grade. "I don't think that most of the student body is average," Mr. Janus told the Midway. "Teachers tend to forget that this is a very good school and the students are pretty smart. I think that most of the students at this school should be able to get Bs. I think that maybe we need to revise the meanings of each grade because to me a B is average."

Often higher grades result from pressure from administrators or parents, some teachers say, even if the pressure is not directly expressed but implied. "There are two main reasons why the grades of our students are inflated. The first is that the faculty is afraid of the parents." -Anonymous teacher

"There are two main reasons why the grades of our students are inflated," said a teacher who asked to remain anonymous. "The first is that the faculty is afraid of the parents. We have a very strong group of parents in this school and when their students don't get the grades they would like, often parents threaten. "The second is that the school would like to keep its image. We have always been known for our academically strong student body. If teachers were to give students the grades that they deserved, perhaps we would not be known as so strong in academics. This is something that troubles the administration."

Administrators have long said they leave grade decisions to teachers and act only as mediators when grades are contested. Some students themselves say many U-Highers have to do little to no work to earn As and Bs. "I know people who have never done their homework and still manage to pull Bs," said Junior Jeff Haines. "I think it's really pathetic that we are viewed as a top school in terms of grades, while people can get high grades without doing work."

Receiving high grades is appropriate at U-High because of the smart students, some U-Highers say. "I know that a lot of people get As, but I think that the majority of people that do deserve them," said Sophomore Lea Morena.

"A lot of people at Lab are really smart and that's why they do so well."

"Seeing that college applications are affected by grade inflation, some teachers say the faculty needs to seriously research what grades are given in the school, what students and parents are told and understand about what each grade means and how many teachers give only As or Bs to students.

The school currently has no readily-available data to consult about grading patterns. "Collages know us," Mr. Bell said. "Colleges--especially Ivy League schools and small liberal arts schools--know how high our grades are and it makes it difficult for them to distinguish between the good students and the really good students."

But other teachers insisted that almost all students at U-High are "really good," and compared to students at other high-quality public and private schools, consistently do A or B work.

"I know people who have never done their homework and still manage to pull Bs."

--Jeff Haines, junior

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Rowley Library or Rowdy Library?

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trying to create an environment where students can work while preserving the attractiveness of the newly-renovated Rowley Library, librarians are seeking a balance. Between silence and complete noise is where it lies, they say. The $400,000 renovation included replacement of furniture and the rearrangement of seating. Financed through parent gifts and benefit events, it may have resulted in problems as well as improve-

ments, says Librarian Wix Poole.

THE CONFIGURATION of chairs in the middle of the library causes problems,” he explained.

“When you get that number of students together even if they whisper the noise builds on itself.” Since the renovation, he small area in the middle of the library generally seats 24 students. Students feel concentration of tables in one area has not resulted in more noise but more awareness among librarians.

“WE ARE CENTERED in a place where the librarians can get us in trouble for just a little noise,” says Junior Chip DeWey. “As juniors, we don’t have anywhere else to talk. The cafe is nasty and we don’t have a lounge.”

Librarians say they understand the need for a social gathering place, but wish students could exercise a little more restraint.

“We are not demanding total silence,” said Head Librarian Mona Khalidi. “We are demanding a place where students who want to work can. With the Thursday double lunch and late day you have so many students hanging out, the noise is out of control. Not enough assemblies or activities are planned for this time and students naturally come to the library.”

U-HIGHERS USING the library for quiet study say the disrespect can hinder their study.

“There are times when you go into the library to socialize but for the most part I like to go there to study,” said Sophomore Lizzi Heydeyman. “It’s very distracting when people are in the main desk area running around and asking noise.”

“I don’t think I am in the position to tell them to be quiet because there are 15 of them and one of me but I think students should take the responsibility to listen to librarians and heed what they say.”

Who has last laugh on lounges?

By Leigh Goldstein

Associate Editor

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o U-Highers, student lounges are hangouts which occasionally can be filthy. To administrators and faculty members, lounges are school property which U-Highers need to respect as much as any other room in the school.

Expressing that view, last quar-

ter Dean of Students Jewell Tho-

mas closed the third-floor lounge and Senior Advisor Susan Shapiro shut down the Senior Lounge.

SOME SENIORS say Mrs. Shapiro reopened the Senior Lounge because of their prank in which they put items from her classroom into their lounge. Mrs. Shapiro says the lounge was reopened because seniors began to seriously discuss how the lounge could be improved. Administrators, teachers and students agree they are still debating about student lounges.

“Students have been asked to take care of the lounges before,” Ms. Thomas said. “Our requests were always ignored. I didn’t know what it was going to take for them to start picking up after themselves.”

“When I talked to the students no one ever seemed to have made the mess and they don’t understand why others are doing it,” said Senior Victor Chien, Lounge Committee chairperson. “But the school gave us no warning that they were dissatisfied with the lounge.”

“The Lounge Committee is the place where students, faculty or administrators are supposed to come if they have any problems with the lounge and we had no idea how the school felt until the lounge was taken away.”

SOPHOMORES, PRIMARY users of the third-floor lounge, say teachers and administrators should have heard their perspec-

tive before closing the lounge.

“I think the administrators need to understand students tend to think of the lounge as their own even if it’s in the school’s property,” Sophomore Class President Jennifer Jones said.

“This makes it harder for them to respect it and take care of the lounges. I don’t always keep my room clean because it’s mine.”

Several teachers and adminis-

trators disagree with U-Highers who say the lounge is students’ space.

“THE LOUNGE is a part of the school, not students’ personal property,” Mrs. Shapiro said. “If they cannot maintain it in a way that is safe and healthy to the school, it should be closed.”

Emphasizing that students should take responsibility for the lounges, Ms. Thomas said she would reopen the third-floor lounge when sophomores agreed to monitor themselves.

In response to Ms. Thomas’ request, six sophomores submitted a plan to monitor the third-floor lounge during their free periods. As a result, the lounge was re-opened April 11.

Decadent Desserts

Peanut Butter Cheesecake · Tiramisu · White Chocolate Cheesecake · Carrot Cake

Caffe Florian

1450 E. 57th St.

(773) 752-4100

Days, seeing the maroon Caffe Florian sign, they entered, only to be greeted by the enormous fridge filled with an innumerable amount of freshly-made cakes and desserts. They decided to stay, eat and relax.

They were on a hunt, a mission rather, to find the dessert from heaven. But Junior Hansa Sawlani was looking for some sort of fruit-filled pastry. Sophomore Jose Cornejo, right, had a taste for tiramisu and Sophomore Rob Tinsman couldn’t live without Key Lime Pie. So they searched for a place that could satisfy them all, but came up empty. Fate, however, brought them down 57th Street. Here, seeing the maroon Caffe Florian sign, they entered, only to be greeted by the enormous fridge filled with an innumerable amount of freshly-made cakes and desserts. They decided to stay, eat and relax.

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LAID BACK, or simply un-

ruly? Juniors Kurt Scott and Binita Barai test the rules of the newly-renovated Rowley Library by kicking back and relaxing. Literally.

LAID BACK, or simply un-

ruly? Juniors Kurt Scott and Binita Barai test the rules of the newly-renovated Rowley Library by kicking back and relaxing. Literally.
Soccer girls go up against league standout

BY NICOLE SAFFOLD

U tility superior skills and complete communication on the field, U-High’s varsity soccer girls seek to defeat last year’s second-place Independent School League’s champion, Woodlands, 4:15 p.m. tomorrow on the Midway. J.V. will play the same time.

“Losses to Woodlands in the past years resulted from poor communication on the field rather than playing ability,” said Music Teacher Dominic Phane, varsity soccer player and co-captain team.

Coach Monica Cantwell and Coach Sarah Bean will lead the varsity team.

PERFORMANCES BY THOSE STANDOUTS and Captains Seniors Ann Waidman and Amelie Collins led varsity to a 10-2 victory against Parkers on the Midway.

While our victory was easier than in the past seasons because Parkers’ team is weaker, the girls’ soccer match succeeded in maintaining our communication, well, and took advantage of openings on the field.

Shuttering a 0-0 flawless ISIL record with a 5-1 loss to Latin, April 12, varsity plans to rebound by defeating South Shore Country Day, 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, against west suburban Fenwick 4:30 p.m. Friday, April 17, J.V. Coach Mike Moses predicts a tough game.

Most of Fenwick’s players have been playing longer than U-High’s jv players,” Moses said. “So intense focus on accurate passing is going to be our highest priority.”

Games not previously reported, varsity scores followed by j.v. in parentheses and U-High score first followed by opponent’s, followed by parenthesis:

Morton, April 1, 0-1 (0:0); Parkers, April 1, 0-1 (0:0); South Shore Country Day, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); Romeoville, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); South Shore Country Day, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); South Shore Country Day, April 1, 0-0 (0:0).

Famed coming games include the following:

Morton, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); North Shore Country Day, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); Parkers, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); Romeoville, April 1, 0-0 (0:0); South Shore Country Day, April 1, 0-0 (0:0);

Tennismen confident they can deliver the goods

BY KYLA CALVERT • ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Drilling By A Parker opponent in a home en masse for 1st, Evanston tennismen hope to rise to the challenge. A late addition to the schedule, Evanston is likely to face a tough opponent.

“They have a tough singles player, but only their first singles and doubles are solid, they hope,” said Senior Andrew Waidman, 1st doubles player with his twin, Senior Grant Waidman. “Because we have a lot of experience in our first singles and first doubles we expect to win the meet.”

EXPERIENCE plays a key role in the Maroons’ plans for this season.

The experience we bring back from last year includes Singles Player Senior Robert Earle and Doubles Players Chase and Grant. We’re shooting our fifth straight independent School League (ISL) title and our sixth consecutive Sectional title and hoping to advance to the entire State, a repeat of last year.

Though the experiences of last year have proven valuable assets this season, the Maroons have focused on consistent effort.

“In past years it has been primarily the seniors and juniors who have secured matches for us,” Robert said, “but this year I think the singles players especially Sophomore Matt Shelton and I have been working hard and will play a larger role in winning meets.”

Though an addition to U-High’s schedule, Shepard, long as a threat, the Maroons blew that opponent away 5-0 at home, April 18.

“The victory over Shepard really served as a confidence booster,” enthused Senior Pranathi Katta, third varsity doubles player “Racking up another number in the win column did us a world of good.”

Latin ended the Maroons’ conquest for an undefeated season in the ISL 2-3 May 15, away, despite the Romans having last talent to graduation and dealing with a new coach.

Playing the first portion of their season in style, with a 4-0 record, winning an April 16 meet at home against Weber, 5-0, j.v. players express uncertainty about being able to maintain consistency as the season moves ahead.

“This game is going to be special,” Coach Gerard Hanck said. “Though we have some promising freshmen we’re still trying out different pairs, to see who plays best together and who might play doubles and singles.”

Match results not already reported are as follows, varsity listed first followed by j.v. in parentheses and U-High score first followed by opponents’ score:

Fremd, May 6, 4-0; Farnsworth, May 6, 4-0; Brother Rice, May 6, 4-0; Marist Tournament, May 6, 4-0; Marist Tournament, May 6, 4-0;

Match coming games are as follows, matches since the last meet against North Shore Country Day School, May 14, 4-0; Weber Tournament, May 6, 4-0; Franciscan, May 7, 4-0; Brother Rice Tournament, May 6-7, 4-0; Marist Tournament, May 6-7, 4-0; Marist Tournament, May 6-7, 4-0;

State, May 15.

FAMED for his solid play all four years at U-High, Senior Robert Earle, first singles player, serves as both a model for a strong leader and a competitive, his teammates say.

On the court his drive and Greese and RPM, his consistent victories, such as at the recent Chicago Classic.

His critical age of 16, the same as Mr. “Bobby” through the years has earned the skills which enable him now to help lead the defending Independent School League champion Maroons in his last season.

Mr. Wilson ‘Coach of the Year’

Selected as the Coach of the Year in District Two by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association, Varsity Coach John Wilson was honored at a dinner Saturday at Illinois State University at Normal. The Association also named Junior Justin Slaughter to its all-state Class A basketball team and awarded Senior Kenny Edie honorable mention. At the winter sports banquet, March 19, Coaches’ Awards were given as follows: Boys basketball, Justin Slaughter; girls’ basketball, Lauren Schwartz; boys’ swimming, Mark Hoffman; cheerleaders, Kemel Higginbotham; Dance Troupe, Lauren Cohn, Lisa Malinowski and Kirsten Steele. All are seniors except Justin and Kirsten, who are juniors.

Deep 8 gives track edge

Quality is depth which gave trackmen a competitive edge at the Independent School League conference meet 3 p.m. Tuesday at Lake Forest Academy.

“Rich is our biggest strength,” said Coach James Cool, who would be okay if our combined relay is up to speed.

Most hurdlers are pursuing personal bests.

“With only five days we will go as well,” Coach Karen Duncan said. “We have two sprinters who are running in the four-by-four and eight-by-four.”

Other teams are the religious Moosehead meet in Kent County Saturday, with other meets.

BOYS, Lake, 9 a.m. Saturday, May 10, 11:30 a.m. Monday, May 13, 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 16, 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 18, 11:30 a.m.

Boys’ track are set to be reconvened. State, Saturday May 18, 11:30 a.m.

Girls’ track meet not yet available for publication in the Midway.

Ready for old ball game rivalry

BY NATHANIEL WHALEN

After sweeping two wins against North Shore Country Day School last season (23-8, 6-4, 2-1), U-High baseballmen anticipate the Raiders will be out for revenge, 4 p.m. today. The Raiders are being powered because U-High must beat the Raiders to reach the league title.

“Last year’s game was one of the reasons we are the Independent Schools League ISL and go over .500 in the Catholic league,” said U-High’s new varsity baseball Coach Jack Taylor who coached j.v. last year. “To win the ISL we go to 2-12-3.”

The ISL is full of skilled baseball players, including several title-winning teams, Lower School Coach John Wilson, Coach Taylor.

“We have a pretty deep team this year,” said Junior Johannes Beesley, varsity first baseman. “I think we are good enough to win the ISL this year. We have the talent; it’s just a matter of hard work and determination. I mean none in the ISL is outstanding. We can compete well, if not win, all 12 of our games.”

Along with a bright future for the varsity team, i.e. see better time shots this year.

“We have a good group of guys,” Mr. Wilson said. “We can’t hit very well but we have a good defensive team and strong pitching. I think we’ll be all right.”

With two doubleheaders and four Saturday games scheduled for the season.

RESULTS OF GAMES not already reported, varsity games followed by j.v. in parentheses, and U-High’s score first followed by opponents’ score:

Morton, March 20, 0-1 (1-0); Mt. Carmel, April 2, 3-0 (3-0); North Shore Country Day, April 2, 4-2 (4-2);

Sloan, April 11, 0-1 (0:0); Dunlap, April 11, 0-1 (0:0); Northerly, April 11, 0-1 (0:0); Chestnut, April 11, 0-1 (0:0); Edgewood, April 11, 0-1 (0:0);

Boys’ baseball are set to be reconvened. State, Saturday May 18, 0-0.

Come again including the following:

Chicago Classic, 4-0; Chicago Classic, 4-0; Chicago Classic, 4-0; Chicago Classic, 4-0; Chicago Classic, 4-0.

Community News, April 11, 0-0 (0:0); Chicago Classic, April 11, 0-0 (0:0); Chicago Classic, April 11, 0-0 (0:0); Chicago Classic, April 11, 0-0 (0:0);

Boys’ track meet not yet available for publication in the Midway.
**Risk of injury plagues dilemma in track**

*By Richard Siegel*  
*Associate Editor*  
*And Johannes Beeby*

Pushing themselves to the limit, many girls track runners have found themselves beyond their limits, resulting in injuries. Of 27 runners, at least a fourth have experienced more injuries than any season in recent school season history.

Coaches feel that injuries are avoidable but only at the cost of competitive performance.

"Regularly, injury is preventable," Coach Karen Duncan said, "but they're not if you really want to train. Runners would have to cut back as soon as they felt the pain and make sure we know what's going on.

Team members said injuries occur because they push themselves too hard and are not aware of the costs until too late. "I think we all try to push our bodies to the limit," Junior Erika Aronson said, "and sometimes our bodies don't send us warning signs until it is too late, or we ignore the signals because we want to continue running and we get hurt.

Seeing the occurrence of injuries as normal to the sport, coaches say the season won't be spoiled, partly because U-High's Independent School League competition also have the same level and depth of injuries.

NEW INJURIES OCCUR early in the season when girls push to hard without enough warmup," Ms. Duncan said, "by the end of the season they're out of the way and everyone is posting their best times.

"They haven't affected us that much this year because we have a lot of depth. If one runner gets injured we have two or three others who can fill in for them until they're back."

**Cheerleaders here deserve more to feel cheerful about**

SO YOU WANT to be a cheerleader, yeah, right. Not exactly. Being a cheerleader isn't a noble aspiration. But let's face it. A 3,000-student athletic powerhouse U-High isn't. Cheerleaders account for a composite GPA of over 3.2 while their counterparts think the Spanish translation of library, biblioteca, is a new club somewhere in Pakistan.

Athletes spend hours straight practicing, driving their squads to victory on the strength of sheer dedication and hard training, sprayed to perfection. U-High's conservative knee-length skirts and collared shirts give way to the other girls' six-inch minis and skin-tight crop tops. The other school's game parties are typically held at the cheerleading captain's house while our girls are usually found at the library.

**TEACH LIBRARY.** Among them, there are two U-High cheerleaders account for a composite GPA of over 3.2 while their counterparts think the Spanish translation of library, biblioteca, is a new club somewhere in Pakistan.

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A spring sunbath

SPENDING A LEISURELY afternoon in Ida Noyes Hall after attending classes all day, Senior Victor Chien relaxes in a Sahara Club button down shirt, $45 and Levi 565 Red Tab jeans, $50, from Fundamentals.

Twisted Together

BRAIDED LIKE A pretzel, Seniors Lisa Malinowsky and Amber Stroud celebrate spring's arrival in new clothes from Untitled. Lisa, sporting a powder blue Lush halter top, $12.95, white Dollhouse pants, $49.95 and Generic sunglasses, $14.95, and Amber, in a Serious lime green jacket, $47.95, Absolute Pervert T-shirt, $14.95 and a black Lush miniskirt, can chill, even on a warm day.

Lay Back & Relax

PUTTING COMFORT FIRST, Junior Jocelyn Reid kicks back in casual clothes from Fundamentals. Unwinding in an olive green Mill Valley long sleeved tee, $29.50 and Lee authentic overalls, $50, Jocelyn knows how to look great while keeping relaxed.

In the details

Clothing provided by Untitled, (773) 404-0225 at 2701 N. Clark St; Londo Mondo, (312) 751-2704 at 1100 N. Dearborn St; and Fundamentals, (773) 753-4120 at 1331 E. 57th St. Page produced by Associate Editor Debra Gitler and Editor-in-Chief Alexa Zammari. Photos by Therese Collins. Captions by Midway Reporter Alice Blander.
Down the block, around the corner, across the street or in Ida Noyes. During lunch, free periods, before school and after school.

All times of day, all kinds of places near the school, U-Highers can be found smoking cigarettes despite attempts by parents, teachers, administrators and the United States government to stop teens from smoking.

STRENGTHENING RESTRICTIONS against teen tobacco use, a new Federal smoking policy enacted Feb. 28 requires tobacco sellers to ask for an I.D. from anyone who looks under 27 with penalty of fines.

If a Federal law doesn’t stop teens from smoking, a written warning upon each pack of cigarettes might. As a settlement decision with 22 states and class-action plaintiffs, the Liggett Group—a tobacco company responsible for about two percent of the domestic cigarette market, according to a story in The New York Times March 22—agreed to add to the health warning already upon every pack of cigarettes a caution about the addictive nature of cigarettes. Teenagers under the age of 18 buy more than 250 million packs of cigarettes a year, according to a story in the Chicago Tribune Feb. 28, but the exact number of smoking teenage Americans remains unknown.

“ALL OF MY friends smoke,” said Sophomore Paul Johnson, “which makes it really hard for me not to smoke. It’s not the physical part of quitting that’s hard. It’s socially.

“I smoked my first cigarette when I was 12 in Montana. A bunch of older kids convinced me to try one. By freshman year, I was smoking regularly. I want to quit because it’s so bad for me but it’s really hard not to smoke when everyone around you does.

“I knew even before I started smoking that cigarettes caused cancer and emphysema. That they were addictive. That they made your fingers yellow. So a written label really won’t have any affect. At least not for me.”

WHEN HE GETS time during the day, Paul leaves sight of the school—the rules allow for students to smoke only if they are out of view of the school—to smoke his Camel cigarettes while other U-Highers enjoy their Marlboros, Parliaments and American Spirits. Nearly every day, during the five-minute interval between classes, Paul crosses 58th Street to sit upon the steps of an apartment building where he takes a cigarette break with other U-Highers.

Likewise everyday, a sophomore girl who wishes to remain anonymous warily smokes her Marlboro Lights while ducked under an overhang in an alley with her friends. She, too, had her first cigarette in Middle School and has smoked on and off for two years.

“Don’t want people to see me smoking,” she said. “I’m afraid to bump into friends of the family or one of my coaches—I do sports at school.

“I don’t like that I smoke. I’ve tried to quit a couple times but it never works. I always end up smoking again.

“But this is a choice I’ve made. Everybody seems to think that by repeating over and over the risks I might stop. I’ve been lectured by my parents, by teachers, by other students. I’ve heard about it in advisory over and over again. But nothing has changed my mind or stopped me from smoking.”

TO HELP U-HIGHERS make decisions such as whether or not they should smoke, discussions in advisory—both formal and informal—explore the reasons behind smoking, the risks and the consequences. As part of these discussions, advisers have invited University of Chicago Peer Health Leaders to present workshops to selected advisories the past three years, offering situations for students to evaluate as questions.

When speaking to U-Highers about smoking, Peer Health Leaders add to their presentations, originally designed for University undergraduates, Federal prohibitions and ramifications, an aspect excluded for University students who usually are of age to be sold cigarettes.

“We were requested by advisers to present to specific age groups,” said Jody Stoner, a Health Education Specialist who has presented smoking and body image workshops at U-High. “I think the program could have very different effects if we met with younger kids—6th, 7th, 8th graders. Presentations probably would be more preventative.

“WITH OLDER KIDS, we realize we can’t really change minds or stop people from what they’re doing, we just try to get them the information. It doesn’t hurt to have refreshers courses that cover what the students already know.

“But we don’t choose who we meet with. We come by request.”
City boy Robert Earles and suburb kid Kareem Saleh play Country Mouse and City Mouse.

There are two things you should know about the suburbs: everyone has a cellular phone and anybody whose anybody has a Range Rover to go along with it.

Listening to a girl give her friend directions at the table behind us, I hear her mention, “My house is the one behind the umm...Ferrari dealership.” The what? “Uh huh,” she continued. “Then make a left at the River Forest County Club and it’s the five-story, red-brick Tudor on the eighth hole.” At this point, her friend interrupts, confounded on how to distinguish one red brick mansion from the other five.

“OH, IT’S THE one with the black Benz out front.” In the background, the theme from 90210 is playing.

Disgusted with the blatant show of wealth, my friend Kareem Saleh and I don our matching pairs of Oakley sunglasses and hop into his E class Mercedes, cruising the streets of River Forest.

“Hey Bob?” Kareem yells over the blasting Delinquent Habits rap music.

“How about some Italian beef?”

“YEAH,” I HOLLER back.

“Let’s get some!”

Taking the turn into Johnny’s Italian Beef at 55 miles per hour, Kareem and I perform a well practiced spin out and fishtail into a perfect parallel parking job. Looking over at Kareem, he grins and says, “You only live once. Do it in a Benz.”

Inside Johnny’s, a perfectly Italian man is slapping juicy beef between two buns. “Is that Johnny?” I ask.

“NOBODY,” KAREEM said.

“I mean nobody, calls him Johnny.”

Overhearing us, the man leans over the counter and says to me, “Hey kid, only my mama calls me oh-nya.”

“Hey, Kareem,” “the man continues.

“What do you and the kid want?”

“TWO BEFFS,” Kareem replies, indicating an Italian accent of his own, “hot and juicy.”

After finishing off the Italian sandwich wishes, Kareem and I stroll leisurely out to the Benz, stopping to watch a couple of River Forest kids trying to retrieve a shoe on a flagpole on the building. Near tears, one kid yells out, “I can’t get it, man,” to his pintle-faced friend, already on the cellphone to notify his mom.

Laughing at their pathetic two-inch verticals, I hand my extra Italian beef to Kareem and leap up the side of the building, making an airborne rescue of the kid’s Jordans.

“Time to hit the gym kid,” I remark, tossing him the shoe. Flying out the restaurant’s exit, Kareem and I speed away into the suburban night, leaving behind us a trail of burning rubber and fat guy named Johnny.

River Forest Likes Life Rare Clay Cars, lavish homes and primp lawn characterize River Forest’s image of suburban life, offering a sharp contrast to the jazzManhattan setting.

River Forest is as close to a hangout as the town gets and, yes, that’s Johnny himself. But careful. Only his mama calls him Johnny.

City Limelight

Waiting idly at a stoplight on Madison Street in Bobby’s minivan after a riveting Bulls victory at the United Center, I hear a small roar and look over at the car beside me.

It is a blue Ferrari with “M AIR F” on the license plate. It was His Airiness himself.

“Ah! Yeah! We’re going to race Michael Jordan,” Bobby grins. The light turned green and just as quick as he had pulled up, the world’s most photographed man disappears. So commences my weekend in the city, fast cars and excitement.

In search of good food, Bobby and I find ourselves at Carmine’s Ciiambusa on Rush Street. Bobby explains Carmine’s is gloriously rumored to be a Mafia-owned establishment (just rumored, folks). The thought conjures up memories of “The Godfather” and I proceed to use my mob accent for the rest of the evening.

After paying an outrageous fee for bland Italian food, Bobby and I venture out on Rush Street, where drunken college students propound us for marijuan.

“This stuff will make you see colors,” one chor.

“No thanks, we already see in color,” I reply.

The College Kids assure us their marijuana is superior to the “dirt” everyone else is selling. The conversation comes to a halt when Bobby and I mentioned our fathers were police officers.

As we take a walk along Michigan Avenue, a group of attractive coeds emerges from the shadows of “Johnny Reckless” or go into the Baja Beach Club at North Pier for an all-ages dance party.

The atmosphere at the Baja is remarkably similar to that of a brothel. Amidst girls wearing enough makeup to pave a chunk of Lake Shore Drive, we seat ourselves at the bar with Ice Cube rapping in our ears. By 2 a.m., all Ice-Cubed out, we have a craving. Calling up Junior Julie Epstein, the Midway’s food critic, we inquire where two young chaps like us might get some meat at such a late hour.

“WELL, DUH,” Julie exclaims. “Everyone knows, the newonna for meat is Ronnie’s 24-hour Steak Palace.” So we go.

“Two pounds of lamb chops, I proclaim.”

With lamb chops under my arm, Bobby and I travel down State Street to his home on Plymouth Court. Stepping off at a White Hen for some drinks, we see a shady-looking fellow running by with a dog. Two minutes later, a yippie jigs by screaming “He took Sparky!”

So an evening on the town ends in Bob’s South Loop home, with more Waterford Crystal than Buckingham Palace and two pounds of meat.

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Enjoying Pool at Gite, on Clark/Earle Delmont, Kareem Saleh finds life in the big city decidedly more colorful than at home in sedate suburban River Forest.
MY, WHAT an added April! Below-freezing temperatures, mini-blizzards, flowers blooming and then freezing to death. The Midway's editors and their trusty Polaroid brand Land camera uncovered these glimpses of the school forging ahead as spring lagged behind.

NEITHER WIND, rain or show (photos from left) shall keep the Rites of May play stage from going up. On Saturday, April 12, theater participants were busy getting this year's particularly-complicated multilevel platform up in the courtyard outside the cafeteria. Red cheeks and stiff fingers attested to the wintry cold outside.

THIS STARTLING CONSTRUCTION, on display in the lobby of Blaine Hall, was created by members of Ms. Mirenz Ganzarain's Sculpture class. Informational signs explain how class members worked in teams to design and construct various parts of the figures, which then were linked to form the finished presentation. It's a good thing these folks are residing inside Blaine Hall as they certainly are not adequately dressed for the April weather outside.

CAN YOU GUESS the date this shot of Christmassy snow drifting down on Kenwood Mall inspired quick sprints from and to Sunny Gym? No. Santa isn't about to arrive and the Easter Bunny was long gone. The date: April 10.

AT TOUCH OF NATURE Center near downstate Carbondale earlier this month, Liz Drew rappels down the face of Giant City rock formation in an activity designed to expand a person's "comfort zone" at Sophomore Retreat (thanks to Lizzi Heydemann for the photo).

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DIVORCE

To cope, U-Highers turn to friends for support

BY RACHEL SHAPIRO
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

"When I got an F one quarter, I told my mom and all she could talk about was how she had bigger and more important problems with my dad and I should just try to start studying more. I went the whole year like that and it really hurt me long term." — Senior boy

Crawling up the stairs to her room, a sophomore girl feels the first tear drop down her face. Suddenly the door slams downstairs and the girl’s mother can be heard screaming at the father, “You never come back in this house again or I’ll call the cops!” After a two months of screaming the girl’s parents got a divorce. But the screaming had a serious affect on her as divorce has on other U-Highers.

DIVORCE HAS disrupted the lives of many U-Highers, whose memories of experiences such as their parents screaming at each other have often left lasting impressions, affecting some for years.

"Right before my parents got divorced, they screamed at each other almost every night," said one freshman girl. "My brother and I would wake up and hear my mother screaming at my father to get out and hear my father say that my mother was a bad parent. Then he would leave and come back early in the morning. "When they finally got divorced it was almost a relief. I thought a lot of the divorce was my fault because they were always fighting about things that my brother or I had done. I knew now that it wasn’t, but it messed me up when I was younger."

AFTER THE DIVORCE, some U-Highers, already cynical about romance, are left with their views of marriage and commitment tainted, eventually affecting their own romantic relationships.

"Divorce has a very negative affect on most children in the long run," Counseling Bob Bachand said. "Statistics show that kids whose parents are divorced are more likely to get divorced themselves."

With an already rigorous academic program at school, falling grades can prove a U-Higher’s worst nightmare. But children whose parents are divorced often experience difficulty concentrating or sleeping, resulting in grades dropping.

"WHEN MY PARENTS got divorced I couldn’t sleep at night," one senior boy said. "I started sleeping in class and then my grades started to go down. Before I had been getting mostly A’s and B’s but then I started getting Cs and Ds."

"When I got an F one quarter, I told my mom and all she could talk about was how she had bigger and more important problems with my dad and I should just try to start studying more. I went the whole year like that and it really hurt me long term."

If parents insult each other, the child’s views of their parents as well as themselves often suffer, U-Highers say. When parents don’t respect each other, U-Highers often wonder if they should respect the parents, whose arguing causes students to question the basis on which they respect their parents.

"I’VE LOST SO much respect for my parents that it’s hard to love them the way that I used to," said one sophomore girl. "My dad’s always telling me what a bad mother mom is and my mom always tells me what a bad father dad is."

"It’s like they don’t even care how it affects me. They just want me to be the other one look stupid to make themselves feel better. It’s really hard when your most important role models are people that you don’t respect. It’s made it hard for me to trust people."

Forced to accept incompatible parents, students turn to other loved ones for support, such as grandparents or siblings. U-Highers often find their grandparents model from an era where divorce was rare and strong family values were normal.

"BOTH SETS of my grandparents live in Chicago so I visit them a lot," said one senior boy. "They are kind of my ‘model family’ because they have both been together for over 50 years. When I get upset about my parents fighting or something, I just go hang out with them and feel better."

With many parents of U-Highers divorced and working full-time, many students have found a support network of friends ready to talk or do things with after the school. "My friends were really nice when my parents got divorced," said one sophomore boy. "A lot of their parents were divorced too and they knew how it felt. I spent a lot of time at their houses for the first couple months. I think because they helped, I turned out okay. A lot of kids don’t have people they can go to."

IN GETTING over a divorce, U-Highers often find the intensive programs at school give them something else to focus on, such as extracurricular activities or schoolwork.

"The most important thing I’ve learned from my parents is how much divorce hurts," said one junior girl. "I think marriage is handled too tightly these days. If people get married realized what they were getting into in the first place, there wouldn’t be as many divorces. I’m gonna make sure that when I get married I really love the person so that it’s forever."

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LOSING A PARENT
Surviving a cop after losing family members

BY JUIE EPSTEIN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A lliation, loneliness, depression. A supportive school community and closer family ties, U-Highers say, have helped them cope with these feelings that come with losing a parent.

The death of his father, Senior Daniel Coleman said, brought him closer together with his family and friends.

"WHEN I CAME back to school, everyone was very supportive. Teachers and people I didn’t know well sent me flowers and notes. It didn’t feel like pity, but like understanding and friendship."

"I felt able to talk with people before I wouldn’t even think of being friends with. I also found a way to cope by writing stories."

Although friendly in most cases, some teachers have been cold.

"IN A SITUATION like this I could have used the benefit of the doubt in a class where I was struggling, the teacher was indifferent to my circumstances," said Junior Alex Zamir, whose lost his mother in January after a long illness.

When a parent dies, the age of a child also affects their reactions.

"My father died of prostate cancer when I was seven months old," Senior Romanie Walter said. 

"Although I have no recollection of him, I often wonder how much different my life would be if he were alive."

MANY EXPERTS agree that the the younger the child, the easier it is to cope with death.

"The older the child, the more difficulty it is to cope with death," Counselor Bob Bachand said. "Teenagers tend to have spells of depression and feelings of guilt. What they should realize is that it is natural to grieve and healthy to express their feelings."
Help is... coming
Counselor Bob Bachand has been looking for students interested in being part of divorce support and discussion group. Interested U-Highers can talk to Mr. Bachand.

Mom Time
IT'S EVENING at mom's house and Freshman Matt Cameron, Ms. Linnea Cameron and her friend Mr. Ed Martin chat in the living room as Frodo the dog chases and capers for attention. Because his parents live three blocks apart Matt can see each of them during the week.

Dad Time
IN HIS DAD'S KITCHEN, Matt and Mr. Cameron keep Mr. Cameron's friend Ms. Lorrie Simmons company as she prepares a walnut crisp. Matt sleeps at his Dad's on Saturday and but enjoys dinner there three times during the week. On Sunday the family dines together.

Doing the splits:
Living in two places can prove problematic

Experts say that children either adopt to splitting time between parents or make the situation worse by manipulating their parents. Parents, however, often set themselves up for it by positioning themselves to be their child's favorite.

"WHEN IT'S A split arrangement, many teenagers try to push one parent against another," said Councilor Bob Bachand. "The rules are different from one house to another and parents often try to be their kids' favorite parent and teens try to take advantage of that."

Often kids who split time between parents are forced to deal with different rules and expectations. Mr. Bachand added, and some U-Highers' daily lives are disrupted by this.

"Plans are a lot more uncertain now that my parents are divorced," Freshman Isaac Kohn said, "because my parents disagree on when I should be back from stuff and what I can and can't do."

Some U-Highers with divorced parents experience problems adjusting from one parent's style to the other's, which leads to tension, troubling the students and disrupting the family.

"I've spent half the week with each parent since I was nine so I'm kind of used to it," said a sophomore boy, "but the ways my mom does stuff and the way my dad does stuff are different. My mom knows I'll do chores sometimes and my father will pick at me 'til I get things done."

Splitting time between parents can affect U-Highers' lives on a daily basis, rocking their daily routine and giving them pause before they can be able to wear their favorite outfit or continue their English paper on the right computer.

"IT'S A BIG concern a lot of the time because I constantly have to think about where I go after school," Isaac said. "I try not to let it affect me but living in two households sometimes disrupts my life."

After several years single, many parents begin having new relationships. Though some U-Highers like their stepparents, they say the feelings are not the same as they are for parents, and stepparents or people parents are dating become mostly friends.

"It isn't 'okie, 'Oh, now I have two new parents,"' said Freshman Matt Cameron of his parents' new significant others. "It's more like a couple of new friends because I call them by their first names and the relationship is different. Even so, sometimes being with them gets awkward."

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Poetic People

Ancient Art U-High-Ku

DISCUSSING the meaning of a Haiku with U-High-Ku Club Advisor John O’Connor, Freshman Catherine Schroeder, Rachel Walters, and Colleen Jones find the poetry form fascinating.

Haiku I.Q.

A poem that presents a moment of heightened awareness, haiku is an ancient form of literature from Japan. Haiku poetry usually incorporates the following elements:

- Briefly stated lines
- Juxtaposition of two images
- Commonly 12 to 15 syllables, sometimes seven, eight, 17 or 19.
- A reference to nature, human or nonhuman.

Spring brings forth warm weather, fresh colors and new trends. Come to Style Network and treat yourself to a new style. Let the friendly stylists at the Style Network give you a fresh look for the fresh season of spring!

ENCOURING his presentation of his first place Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra (CYSO) competition piece “Saint-Saëns Concerto Number 1,” Freshman Daniel Fedor (photos from left) presented a lunchtime concert April 3 with Freshman Conley Johnson.

Conley, also an award-winning musician, presented two piano etudes by Chopin, “Revolutionary Etude” and “The Harp Etude.” Both artists received enthusiastic applause.

Theater

She glides across the stage. For a brief moment Suspended in air

All like school. We’re not required to write anything. Focusing on modern haiku, Mr. O’Connor shows members books of the poetry which, unlike traditional three-lined haiku with a five-seven-five-syllable pattern, have no syllable guidelines.

“It’s a very simple, brief, fluid thought,” Senior Kate Levinson explained.

“It’s different from other forms of poetry in that it’s not about finding the perfect words, it’s just your thoughts.”

Other members say they also appreciate the simplicity of haiku. “I like the focus on a single moment in haiku,” Senior Philip Trevett said. “It’s very natural.”

Another Activity members say they enjoy is connecting with other haiku writers around the world via the Internet.

“There’s a group of people we e-mail from other schools who also write haiku,” Kate explained. “It’s interesting and I like the poetry. It’s kind of like a pen-pal.”

Stylish Trends

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Photos by Elissa Blackstone
People
Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Role models and why they rate
U-Highers like achievers who are also nice people

BY ARIEL GIBBONS
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

It's easy to spot the role models at most high
schools. The same few people excel in academics,
sports and activities, hold all the school offices, wear all
the crowns. They all tend to be fresh and perky and
take that same indefinable "still recognizable look.
Not at let's be different U-
High. Role models here come in many varieties. "WITH SO many role
models of different ethnicities it's easier for people to identify with them, " ob-
erved Senior Michael Tang. "It's a more realistic role
model because you can't say oh that doesn't apply to me,
we're out of my league."

U-Highers forced to admire students who work hard

"I think a lot of the people at Lab would find that a good
role model is extremely hardworking and diligent," said
Junior Joanna Bauer. "At other schools students probably
have the more traditional role models, you know, if I could be like
consider Lizzi Heydemann to be a good role
model," said Sophomore Jennifer Jones. "The amount
of work and effort she puts forth in everything makes her
worth looking up to."

Taking time to be nice to others while achieving in
academics, activities and sports themselves also
characterizes role models, many U-Highers say.

"SENIOR KENNY" Ebie is frequently cited for this
quality. "It seems like all the things Kenny puts his mind to
are excels at," said Junior Forest Himmelfarb. "Also, even
though he has put time and effort into things he is a nice
person who takes time to say hello to people in the halls."

A theater standout in school and in the Chicago Youth
Symphony Orchestra out of school, courageous booster
for a gay discussion group

Mike.

DEDICATION AND
interest in school activities
also tends to characterize role
models here.

and achiever
of a top grade
point average,
Senior Molly
Stone rates as a
role model with
many U-
Highers.

"She's always doing
something and she
has everything
together," said
Junior Vanessa
carr. "But she
still takes time out
of her busy schedule to be your friend."

SOME TRAITS U-High role models do share with
standouts at most schools. "I think kids who strive to
participate in a variety of

activities and still achieve
academia excellence should
look to Kareem Saleh as a
role model," said Senior
Robert Easley. "Kareem
maintains excellent grades
while remaining a leader in
both the Journalism and
Model U.N. pro-
grams.

AS FOR
teachers, Ms. SUZANNE
Buckwalter "always gets
along really well with stu-
dents," said Junior Michael
Hoy. "She's always
willing to explain

events and
works hard
with every-
one."

Congratualtions
to Tom Marcinkowski
and Alex Zamiar
National winners in Quill and Scroll Society's
annual journalism honors program
and the 10 Midway staff members
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Congratulations, too, on completing another outstanding issue!
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Spring is in the air and your spirits can soar, too, on a new bike from Wheels & Things.

SOARING OVER THE SCHOOL on a moonlit night, from left:
- Freshman Sarah Schlesinger on a bike for children, with training wheels.
- Freshman Ishan Bhatia on a great Camonade bicycle.
- Sophomore Lily Koppal on a fantastic Terry bicycle for women.