As the weather gets warmer, U-High’s 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 school in Adler Planetarium’s lower level, from left, Senior Lisa Malinowsky, Sophomore Paul Johnson, Senior 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, $49.95, Paul is in a Pervert hat, $19.95, Panorama button down shirt, $40.95, Panorama button down shirt, $19.95 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, $82.

RAGS 4 ROLLIN’

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

U-Highers who have been arriving home an hour or more later than last year because of the 3:30 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 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 Gunty, math, are representing the High School.

"Attending Mr. Snelling's meetings was beneficial and we accomplished a lot," Mrs. Shapiro said. "Mr. Snelling has much experience in scheduling and gave us many great ideas. Although they were not directly applicable, they were good food for thought. We are not reinventing the wheel, rather molding it around the needs of 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 of the top honors for overall excellence offered by two national school press associations.


Both awards were given to six high school magazines from several hundreds entered for consideration. The Pacemaker is the 13th in 13 years for Columbia's student publication, which Mrs. Shapiro said was "a rather high number." The winning edition was edited by Shana Mendoza, Claire Runyan and Paulette Yousefzadeh, all seniors last year. The magazine's advisors are Mrs. Joan Soklich, art, and Mr. Steve Parver, literary.

In the current issue of the Student Press Review, Columbia's quarterly magazine, Mrs. Soklich has an article on encouraging wider student participation in art and literary magazines.

"Through 17 years of experience with the mechanics of judging," Mrs. Soklich writes, "we have learned that the evaluation procedure follows 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 on with a minimum of stress and even less publicity."

Seniors enjoy special events

By Nader Khirbik

Associate Editor

aving launched with the Lab Schools Board April 10, seniors are now looking forward to another day of paintball fun and the 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 student interest in attending," said Senior President Win Boulavangoro. "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 plan some more events." Mrs. Shapiro also engineered making the Senior Class Day officially recognized and including a parent-sponsored brunch. Some seniors unhappy with these 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 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 Saleh

Editor-in-Chief

A newly-created Student Empowerment Committee will focus on recruiting underclassmen and holding candid discussions with administrators about making the school a better place to live.

"Many students would like to form a committee to gradually build up students' interest in attending," said Senior President Win Boulavangoro. "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 plan some more events." Mrs. Shapiro also engineered making the Senior Class Day officially recognized and including a parent-sponsored brunch. Some seniors unhappy with these developments, among others, recently presented a petition to Principal Hannah Goldschmidt to remove her as class advisor.

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The Casual Chic

The coming of summer is heralded with khakis, knits and a variety of trendy tees all in stock now at Cohn & Stern. With designer names including Perry Ellis, Calvin Klein and Wilke Rodriguez in Cohn & Stern's outstanding selection, everyone will eye your new threads wishing they had your class and style.

In the Hyde Park Shopping Center

1500 E. 55th St. (773)752-8100

SPINACH LASAGNE, Caesar Salad, French Bread, carrot cake, chocolate cake and fresh strawberries deliciously 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 got acquainted were Board Member Ralph Muller and Senior Matt Anderson.
She's a winner

Science Search honoree keeps her cool in spotlight

BY YIKAS SINGHAL
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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

How to gain respect in male-dominated field was among topics addressed by prominent female scientists April 11 at the forum sponsored by the U. of C. Argonne Research Laboratory near west suburban Darien which nine U-High girls attended. 


Seniors win scholarships

Three seniors have been announced winners in the National Achievement Scholarship program for outstanding Black American students. They are Kenny Ebe, James Jones and Antha Klick. The U-Highers are among 400 winners nationally of one-time $2,000 college scholarships. They came from 1,200 finalists who came from a group of 1,500 semifinalists chosen from 100,000 initial candidates. Scholarship winners were judged as having the greatest potential for college success from semifinalists in their geographical regions.

New club has investment

Hoping to follow in the footsteps of the Boardwomen, a well-known group of women involved in the stock market, the U-High Investment Club plans to invest its funds as well as contribute money to charity. The club was founded by junior Joseh Milberg and Pat Spann, serving as presidents. "They became interested in investing because it is interesting and it gives you a feeling of personal accomplishment," said Spann. "We are learning how to invest and to make new friends as well." The club meets at lunch time, and is located in room 203.

Imprisonment survivor talks

Surviving an Oklahoma prison, two former U-High students, Veronica Doering and Thomas Oates, are now visiting high school campuses around the country, and are planning to bring their story to the Joliet West community. The two ran away from home to join the army, and were caught and imprisoned for five years. Doering is serving his sentence in the Marion Correctional Center, and Oates is serving his time in the Colorado Penitentiary.

72 grad wins election

Playing in the Rattlesnake Festival March 8 at Rattlesnake Park outside of Aurora, Matt Broughton, an senior at U-High, was the winner of the student council election. Broughton was elected the new student council president, succeeding the outgoing president, a senior who will attend the University of Wisconsin next year. Broughton is the second senior in the student council for the past two years, and is the first non-freshman to hold the position in two years.

Peer Learning: Fun with a purpose

Providing U-Highers a chance to participate in independent research, Peer Learning is a new club that has formed on campus. Students can learn about a subject they have a strong interest in, and gain experience in the process. "The club is a good way to get some extra credit and to explore a subject in more depth," said junior Amy Wang. "We will have meetings to share ideas and discuss our projects, and we will also have presentations to discuss our findings." The club meets on Tuesdays after school, and will be open to all students who are interested in participating.

College success from finalists in their geographical regions.

Senior Tasmin Morgan is among 500 semifinalists in the 1997 Presidential Scholars Program selected from 4,000 candidates nationwide among two-and-a-half million high school seniors. From the semifinalists will come as many as 141 Scholars. The program annually recognizes outstanding high school seniors by placing them in a category where no other high school students have been selected. The seniors are chosen from the larger pool of semifinalists in a number of academic disciplines in areas including the arts, leadership and community involvement. Senior Tasmin Morgan is a semifinalist in the journalism category and is expected to receive a letter of recognition and to meet the President and other government officials.

Winners in an annual journalism recognition program sponsored by the National Scholastic Press Association are being announced for the 1997-98 school year. The Regional Journalism Awards Committee of three judges has selected their winners for stories in the same issue. In the News category, won for his editorial page strip "The Stately Life;" and Sophomore Boonlayoor won first prize in the Harper Court Foundation Writing Contest for short stories. Senior Philip Trevett took second place. "I worked with the judges to come up with the winning entries, and I was very happy with the results," said Philip. "I hope to continue to improve my writing in the future."

For stories in the same issue. In the Features category, won for a story on a class trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. "I found out from the Bulletin," said Philip. "I was surprised at everyone else." "We weren't completely ready for the Regional competition," said Philip. "It was an opportunity for me to shine." 

The competition in Washington was a lot less stressful than I thought it would be," said Ming. "We all wanted to be completely stressed out but it wasn't that way at all." "It was real casual. We ate dinners together and hung out in each other's rooms. I got to know them really well and we keep in touch." Inspired by her father, a student at U. of C. affiliated Argonne National Laboratory near west suburban Darien, Ming and her older brother both have special interests in science and the Westinghouse competition. "MY BROTHER was a finalist in Westinghouse also," said Phillip. "He didn't like it as much. She's probably as well."
Discussion group underway

BY SETHA 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 Horizons 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 plans.

“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 concerns 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 needs to be a group of a year or so that is extremely homophobic,” said Foreign Language Teacher Randal 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 it 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 Wao 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 those 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 its 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.”

Some junior and seniors felt their meeting with Horizons representatives was not entirely helpful. “The discussions in sophomore and freshman advisories offered separately from the junior-senior program have particularly worried some parents.”

“I think the school sees this issue as a silly teenager phase that we will go through and then eventually we’ll be straight when we realize it’s right. It is a big decision being made in someone’s life and I don’t think many people deal with the reality of it.”

“Parents need at least a year or two of this experience before,” said Junior Therese Collins. “I think the school saw this issue as a silly teenager phase that we will go through and then eventually we’ll be straight when we realize it’s right.”

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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 Chien 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 then 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 thing is learning was 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 family and friends, many U-Highers say they spend a large portion of their day working on their homework, often studying until two or three in the morning. Those students who do take part in outside activities often find themselves pressed to find time for all of their commitments.

"I GOT AROUND" eight hours of sleep finals week just last quarter," said Senior Jenna Kirsig. "I just didn't have the time to keep up with everything.I work 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 study so I could pass. It's not always that 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 extra 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 '20s, '40s and '50s which attempted to develop the whole person rather than just preparing people for college," said Journalism Teacher Wayne Brandler. "Young people learn lifelong lessons in afterschool jobs and other activities. We may be erring in concentrating on producing scholars..."
Talking about inflation

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-Highers has now turned to the ill of grade inflation. Of course, no one actually has any evidence that inflation exists, but it's a perfect grade up the ladder, so no one is really worried about it. Actually, it's a minor obstacle in the way of a faculty determined to pseudo-reform anything they can get their hands on.

GRADE INFLATION paranoia has stricken like a sneaky story teacher: nervously worrying that prestigious colleges aren't able to distinguish between U-Highers who are extraordinary and those who received good grades due to just plain hard work. But the only thing that will ever become inflated is their imaginations. "I don't think that being Roe is a very serious issue," says one student who has no idea what he's talking about.

The allure of higher grades is a common reason why people do all the things they do. A high school graduate wants to be admitted to college, so he or she does all the things required to get admitted. Normally, this means good grades, good SAT scores, good letters of recommendation, and good community involvement. 

S earching for the story behind the story falling inflation. But in the words of the fictional inspector Dr. Wong, "There's only one thing wrong with that theory...it's not true." Just because so many U-Highers grades might look similar on paper, that's only one part of the 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 standardized test scores, extracurricular activities and essays that applicants submit.

The facts, if U-Highers are getting better grades, is because they want them. Unfortunately, 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.

Chicago Magazine missed what makes us us

Schools At The Top Inside the elite worlds of Latin, Parker and Lab" trumpet the feared line at the top of Chicago Magazine's April cover. Inside the story by Cynthia Hanson proposed an "analysis of what's so good about the test" of "Our Own Private Ivy League."

All the public relations money in the world couldn't have given the Lab School the picture-perfect impression Chicago Magazine presented. But that's what the story got. U-High has 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 feeling that makes our school much more than just a hive of worker bees. There's a kind of crazy joy born to 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 touched on.

As for the story's account of the school falling at two places, home and school, than it is to enjoying our teenage years. Also contributing to the stodgy home work 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 evening. 

Besides depriving students of sleep the workload prevents many from participating in activities outside school. When U-Highers do try to balance school and other activities they often find that they're always late after spending time working for homework taking second priority to special and extracurricular activities.

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 school bell goes off he rolls out of bed to get ready for school. As he fights to stay awake in the shower he wonders what possesses his parents to make them do anything or anything to be in high school again.

Do you think the Heaven's Gate cultists made it to heaven? (Asked on April Fools Day.)

AMESLIE COLLINS, senior: I don't believe in heaven and the kind of stuff. It's very sad but something worse is that it's a waste of time for them to delude themselves into accepting their beliefs.

D AVID JOHNSON, junior: No. Heaven is nothing but a place of lies and spaceships. I think it's a sad commentary on the world today that people could be so misguided.

ANDERS NEUMAN, senior: They're a bunch of bouncy tunes and I don't think they're going to find anything but themselves. They're like dead wearing Nikes and a bunch of purple sheets over their heads.

NERISSA LEGGEE, freshman: I'm sure they're somewhere. I don't think they made it to heaven but whenever they are I think they're happy because they are together.
**Stars don't make this**

**Devil sparkle**

FILM STUDIOS OFTEN bank on the notion that if a film boasts two or more big stars it doesn't need a story. Sometimes, this is the gamble works (the De Niro-Pacino combination in "Heat"). Other times it does not.

Too many essential parts, such as a plot, are neglected ("Up Close and Personal").

Columbia Pictures' new thriller, "The Devil's Own," directed by Alan J. Pakula and starring Harrison Ford and Brad Pitt, unfortunately falls into the second category.

**THE STORY BEGINS**

In Northern Ireland, 1972, where an Irish family is t i n g d o w n to dinner at the same table at which a gun was last used. Both stars have appropriately criticized the movie for its major flaw, a weak script.

With three credited screenwriters, David Aaron Cohen, Vincent Patrick and Kevin Jarre, as well as the many script doctors who touched up the movie, "The Devil's Own" has an incoherent feeling. It is as if it were from several storylines had been pieced together to form a holey plot quilt.

The movie becomes downright ridiculous at some points, raising unbearable questions. **LIKE WHY** does the script never address the religious problems at the center of the IRA and British government conflict? By far the film's highlight, both Ford and Pitt give wonderful and charismatic performances. At times they almost make their characters' ludicrous situations and opinions plausible. But no amount of skilled acting can save this stinker of a story.

**Traffic Jam**

**Vikal Singh**

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 a worst area in the school. After people finish eating, they just throw away the plastic bags, containers and whatever remains of 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 do live in a roach house.

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**Paper Chase**

*Who learns when paper rules the schedule?*

**Witty Trash**

**Karrem Salc**

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. "We 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 inanimates paper.

The recent article in the April issue of Chicago Magazine (which was a mighty piece of p.r. if I've ever seen one) proclaimed that "U-High's creative atmosphere is the stuff of which legends at the center of the IRA and British government conflict."

I thought the Midway's marketplace is a better place. Providing a marketplace of ideas 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!**

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**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).

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 seemingly random questions and opinions detract from her main point.

**PIPHER HAS** written each chapter with different structure. She establishes an order to follow within her first page consisting of descriptions of a problem 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.
MAKING THE GRADE

Is inflation a genuine problem here?

BY RACHEL SHAPIRO

T he 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 raised. 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 students. 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 makes 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 Hanauer.

"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 Mosena.

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

"Teachers say the 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.

"Colleges 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 countered 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 Hanauer, junior

The University of Chicago Bookstore is located at the corner of 58th and Ellis. A service of Barnes & Noble, it offers the perfect place to browse and relax.

At the Cafe, you can get Starbucks Coffee, sandwiches, soups and the perfect dessert. An expanded selection of magazines and periodicals are available at the newsstand.

The University of Chicago Bookstore is the place for all your textbooks and class related materials.
Rowley Library or Rowdy Library?

Renovations done but din drones on

By Ariel Gibbons
Associate Editor

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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 comfort.

The $400,000 renovation included replacement of furniture and the rearrangement of seating. Focused through parent gifts and benefit events, it may have resulted in problems as well as improvements, says Librarian Win 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, the 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,” said Junior Chip Dorsey. “As juniors, we don’t have anywhere else to talk. The caf 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 in there to study,” said Sophomore Lizzi Heydemann. “It’s very distracting when people are in the main desk area running around and making noise.”

“I don’t think I am in the position to tell them to be quiet because I don’t have a lounge.”

Sophomore Jose Cornejo, right, had a taste for tiramisu and Sophomore Rob Reddy had a taste for cheesecake. He said, “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 GOLSTEIN
Associate Editor

To 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 quarter Dean of Students Jewell Thomas 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 been 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 seems to have made the mess and they don’t understand why others are doing it. Cleaning the lounges was a way of getting students’ attention.”

SOME U-HIGHERS admit the lounges need to be cleaned but don’t believe that justified teacher or administrator interference.

“The condition of the Senior Lounge had gotten pretty horrendous,” 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 perspective before closing the lounge.

“I think the administrators need to understand students tend to think of the lounge as their own even if it is 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 administrators disagree with U-Highers who say the lounge is students’ space.

“The LOUNGE is 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 reopened April 11.
POWER PLAY
FOCUSED AND FAST, varsity Maroons are proving successfully aggressive on the field. In their April 10-2 victory over Francis Parker on a soggy Midway, Maroon girls quickly moved in to subdue a distraught Colonel opponent before she has a chance to create a possible scoring opportunity. Maroons from left are Junior Angela Keene, Freshman Hannah Levine and Junior Dana Moskowitz.

DRIBBLING BY A PARKER opponent in a home match last week, Senior Seetha Srinivasan put hours of drilling and conditioning to use as she and her girls plowed the Colonels 10-2 on the Midway. The game marked the first time U-High met decades-long rival Parker in a girls' soccer match. The Maroons our double ot to have their first encounter with the Colonels go down in the history books as a U-High victory.

Tennismen confident they can deliver the goods

BY KYLA CALVET
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Tennismen confident they can deliver the goods

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earring up for their 4:30 p.m. Saturday, tennismen hope to rise to the challenge. A late addition to the schedule, Evanston looks as a tough opponent.

“They have a tough singles player, but only their first singles and doubles are solid, they’re not the best of the team talks off” said Senior Chase Chavin, first doubles player with his varsity doubles partner. Senior Grant Chang. “Because we have a lot of experience in our first singles and first doubles, we expect to win the meet.”

EXPRESSING his role in the Maroons’ plans for this season, “The experience we bring back from last year includes Singles Player Senior Robert Erables and Doubles Player Chase and Grant. We’re shooting our fifth straight Independent Schools 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 independents, we 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 High, located 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 Prasanth 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.

“IT’S HARD to look ahead,” J.V. Coach Gerold 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:

FAMED FOR his solid play all four years at U-High, Senior Robert Erables, first singles player, serves as both a model and a coach to the competitive, his teammates say.

On the court his drive and presence in doubles are consistent victories, such as the recent Chicago Classic. Erables notes the age of seven; “Bobby” through the years has mastered the skills which enable him now to help lead the defending Independent School League champion Maroons in his last season.

Soccer girls go up against league standout

BY NICOLE SAFFOLD

U lting 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 Paine, varsity coach and former girls varsity head coach. “We are focusing on fundamentals forwards Junior Christina Cantwell, Freshman Stephanie Lentz, Hannah Levine and Nora Garry added with strong defense will prove the critical area of depth we have on the team.”

PERFORMANCES BY THOSE STANDOUTS and Captains Seniors Ann Wuhan and Amelia Collins led varsity to a 10-2 victory against Park Academy, April 4, 4-0, on the Midway.

“While our victory was easier it is Parker’s first year as a team,” said Senior Ann Wuhan, “We have played a good game, communicated well, and took advantage of openings on the field.”

“Shutting a 0-0 flawless ISL record with a 3-1 loss to Latin, April 12, varsity plans to rebound by defeating North Shore Country Day, 4:30 p.m., Friday, away. West suburban Fenwick 4:30 p.m., Friday, J.V. Coach Mike Moses predicts a tough game.

“Most of Fenwick’s players have been playing longer than U-High’s j.v. players” Mr. 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 score,

Morton, April 15, 1-0; Park, April 15; 4-0; Lake Forest, April 15, 4-0; Park, April 15, 4-0; North Shore, April 15; 4-0. Lake Forest Academy, April 15; 4-0.

Comes playing the first portion of the Midway’s early color deadline this issue and will be reported in the next issue; Brother Rice, April 23; Lake Forest, April 24; Francis Park, April 24, away, April 25, 4-2, away.

Coming matches are as follows; Hanover, May 1; Grant Academy, May 1; North Shore Country Day School, May 1; Lemont, May 1; Faith, May 1; Our Lady of Loretto, May 1; J.V. Tournament, May 5; Loyola, May 5; Francis Park, May 7, varsity only; J.V. Brother Rice Tournament, May 7; varsity only; J.V. Tournament, May 7; varsity only; Kaplan Academy, May 14; J.V. Tournament, May 14; varsity only; Greenwood Academy, May 15; varsity only; J.V. Tournament, May 15; varsity only; Lake Forest Academy, May 15; 4-0, on the Midway, Woodlands, May 22, home.

FREDERICK B. LEWIS

Ready for old ball game rivalry

BY NATHANIEL WHALIN

A
fter sweeping two wins against North Shore Country Day School (NSCDS). 8-4, 4-2, last year’s U-High baseballmen anticipate the Raiders will be out for revenge, 4 p.m. today. They are prepared because the U-High must beat the Raiders to reach the league title.

“Up until this point this year we are the Independent Schools League (ISL) and go over 500 in the Catholic league,” said U-High’s newest coach Senior, Jack Taylor, who coached j.v. last year. “To win the ISL we have to go 12-3"".

Playing a talented and skilled varsity team, including several title-winning teams, Lower School Teacher 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 Koryl 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 Higginsbon; Dance Troupe, Lauren Cohn, Lisa Malinowski and Kirsten Steel. All are seniors except Justin and Kirsten, who are juniors.

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 Koryl 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 Higginsbon; Dance Troupe, Lauren Cohn, Lisa Malinowski and Kirsten Steel. All are seniors except Justin and Kirsten, who are juniors.

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Risk of injury prevails in the track

By Richard Siegel

lovem motion into a Jimmy Hendrix song. I believe that it came together very well

Velde.

It mayordinated by Ms.

Vande

produced show,

of PhysEd Department enthusiastically the program O'Sullivan, herself has a dance background.

An 'Immaculate Expression,' that the troupe created and a new piece, 'With The Edge of My Hand.' The Madonna dance,

"We performed two dances, our own Madonna dance, "Immaculate Collection," was a jazz dance," said Junior Kirsten Steele, cocaptain with Seniors Lauren Cohn and Lisa Malinowsky. "The dance that Amy choreographed was much more modern. It started off with 'Home on the Range' and then moved into a Jimmy Hendrix song. I believe that it came together very well."

Cheerleaders here deserve more to feel cheerful about

SO YOU WANT to be a cheerleader? Yeah, right.

Not everyone wants to do it, it's not a noble aspiration. But let's face it. A 3,000-student athletic powerhouse U-High isn't.

Cheerleaders are a very viable form of tradition at U-High, and the team's success is due in large part to the coaching of25-year veteran Mr. Ron Presley. "I believe that Jesus Christ wanted me to teach, so I give it my all. Sometimes that is too much," Mr. Presley said.

"PEOPLE THINK that I am goofy, crazy and silly, but in reality I am a very serious and quiet person," Mr. Presley reflected thoughtfully to a visitor in Sunny Gym. "I look at teaching as not only about learning, but more importantly, about life." Coming to U-High to be closer to his teenage son and daughter, who live with their mother in Michigan, Mr. Presley previously taught in New York City at both the Winston Preparatory School and the Calhoun School.

"I love New York," Mr. Presley said. "But if it is between my kids and a city, I'd rather be closer to my kids."

At first he didn't feel comfortable at U-High.

"When I first came, the atmosphere at the school seemed really cold," Mr. Presley said with a serious and disappointed look. "No matter how tall, short, fat, thin, black, or white someone is, I love them. I grew up in a very close and religious family. I was taught to love everyone no matter what race." Seated in the cafeteria, in the middle of a heated Bulls-Knicks debate... from his radio, Mr. Presley is reminded of how Jesus Christ has influenced his life. "Look what He has done for me," Mr. Presley said, raising his voice, "Why is it such a sin to be competitively athletic?"

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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) 404-9225 at 2701 N. Clark St.; Londo Mondo, (312) 751-2794 at 1100 N. Dearborn St. and Fundamentals, (773) 753-4920 at 1331 E. 57th St. Page produced by Associate Editor Debra Gittler and Editor-in-Chief Alex Zamir. Photos by Therese Collins. Captions by Midway Reporter Alice Blander.
Pullout section of the U-High Midway
Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Smokin'

BY DEBRA COTTIER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Don't let 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 risk 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 no 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 wearily 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. "I 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 a 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 affects if we met with younger kids— 6th, 7th, 8th graders. Presentations would probably 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 refresher courses that cover what the students already know.

"But we don’t choose who we meet with. We come by request."
There are two things you should know about the suburbs: everyone has a cellular phone and anybody who's 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 Country Club and it's the five-story, red-brick Tudor on the eighth hole." At this point, her friend interrupts, confused 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. Disguised with the blatan 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 Habit 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 purty 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 ohmya." "Hey, Kareem," the man continues. "What do you and the kid want?"

"TWO BEEFS," Kareem replies, affecting an Italian accent of his own, "hot and juicy." After finishing off the Italian samwiches, 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 pimple-faced friend, already on the cell phone to notify his mom.

Laughing at their pathetic two-inch verticals, I hand my extra Italian beef on harrier as close to a hangout as the town gets and, yes, that's Johnny himself. "But careful! Only his mama calls him Johnny."

City LifeLIGHT
MY, WHAT an addled April! Below-freezing temperatures, miniblizzards, 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 wintery cold outside.

THIS STARTLING CONSTRUCTION, on display in the lobby of Blaine Hall, was created by members of Ms. Mirentx 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 Christmasy 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 Lizzie Heydemann for the photo).

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“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. I think because they helped, I turned out okay. A lot of kids don’t.”

-Senior boy

“Divorce has a very negative effect on most children in the long run,” Counselor 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 an 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.”

“IT’S LOST SO much respect for my parents that it’s hard to love them,” said one sophomore girl. “They are kind of my model family because they have been together for over 50 years. When I get upset about my parents fighting or something, I just go back to the way that I used to.”

With many parents of U-Highers divorced and working fulltime, 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 that I’ve learned from my parents is how much divorce hurts,” said one junior girl. “I think marriage is handled too lightly these days. If people getting 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 for ever.”

“IT’s really hard when your most important role models are people you don’t respect.”

-Sophomore girl

LOSING A PARENT

Survive to cope after losing family members

A lienation, loneliness, depression. A supportive school community and closer family ties, U-Highers say, have helped them cope with those 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.

“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.”

“WHEN MY PARENTS were married I really loved the person so I never really cared. I really love the person so I never really cared.”

-Senior boy

“After the divorce, U-Highers often find the intensive programs at school give them something else to focus on, such as extracurricular activities or schoolwork.”

BOTH SETS of my grandparents live in Chicago so I visit them a lot,” said one sophomore boy. “A lot of their 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.

“IT’s really hard when your most important role models are people that you don’t respect.”

-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.

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-Senior boy
Help is...coming
Counselor Bob Bachand is 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, Mr. Linnea Cameron and her friend Mr. Ed Martin chat in the living room as Frodo the doghole 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 Mr. Lorrie Simonno company as he prepares a walnut tart. Matt sleeps at his Dad's on Saturdays but enjoys dinner there three times during the week. On Sundays the family dines together.

Doing the splits:
Lving in two places can prove problematic

Experts say that children either adapt 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 pit one parent against another," said Counselor 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 says, "because my parents disagree on when I should be back from stuff and what I can and cannot 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 families.

"I've spent half the week with each parent since I was nine so I'm kinda used to it," said a sophomore, "but the ways my mother does stuff and the way my father does stuff are different. My mom knows I'll do chores some time and my father will pick me up '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 their parents, and stepparents or people parents are dating become mostly friends.

"It isn't like, '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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BEAUTIFUL SERVING PLATES capture Junior Richard Raz's admiration as he enjoys a visit to Freeling's. Why don't you visit soon?

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Poetic People

Ancient U-High-Ku

DISCUSSING the meaning of a Haiku with U-High-Ku Club Adviser 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.

Stylish Trends

Spring brings forth warmer 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!

ENCORING His presentation of his first-place Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra (CYSO) competition piece "Saint-Saëns Concerto No. 1," Freshman Daniel Feder (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.

BY ELISSA BLACKSTONE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

We believe they're explaining the importance of an image to the group or just dropping by to listen, members of the haiku poetry club, U-High-Ku, say they’re learning and having fun exploring the ancient Japanese literature form.

AFTER POSITIVE response from students to a fall quarter haiku workshop, English Teacher John O’Connor formed U-High-Ku. The club now includes about two dozen U-Highers—though not all attend every meeting—and English Department Chairperson Michael Gardner.

“I tried it out as a fun activity during senior advisory,” explained Mr. O’Connor, who has published about 17 haiku poems and written many others. “A bunch of people came who were in my sophomore English class two years ago and remembered when I taught about haiku. Many of them wanted to write their own.”

MEETING DURING lunch the last Monday of every month, U-High-Ku members say they enjoy writing haiku, reading their haiku to each other and discussing them.

“It’s a really nice, comfortable environment,” Freshman Catherine Schroeder said. “It’s not at 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.”

Fire
Taking life
everything it touches
Rachel Walters

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.”
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, athletics and sports, hold all the school offices, wear all the crowns. They all tend to be fresh and preppy and have that same indefinable "stil 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," observed Senior Michael Tang. "It's a more realistic role model because you can't say oh that doesn't apply to me, he's out of my league." U-Highers have no difficulty admiring 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

"I 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 characterize 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 be 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 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 academic excellence should look to Kareem Saleh as a role model," said Senior Robert Eagles. "Kareem maintains excellent grades while remaining a leader in both the Journalism and Model U.N. programs.

AS FOR teachers, Ms. Suzanne Buckwalter "always gets along really well with students," said Junior Michael Hoy. "She's always willing to chaperone events and works hard with every one."

BY KAREN LEFF
MIDWAY REPORTER

RAISING his right eyebrow at a classroom full of students, French Teacher Steve Farver, one of the few foreign language teachers in the nation serving as literary adviser to an award-winning magazine, laughs a little as he cracks a joke. With his tall, lanky figure and wide smile, and his sharp taste in fashion, Farver achieves a commanding presence without trying to. As faculty chairman, he gained an invincible reputation for running meetings efficiently and engagingly. But U-Highers say what really makes him stand out in the school is his relaxed attitude, obvious love of people and his indescribable sense of humor.

GROWING up in Newton, Iowa, a small town near Iowa City, Mr. Farver attended Iowa State University. Graduating with a double major in French and English and a double minor in Italian and Education, he journeyed to France. "I was in France for the first time when I was 20," Mr. Farver said. "After I came home, my father said to me, That's good, now you've got your travel out of the way. But for me it was just a start. I went back to France 15 to 20 times and lived and worked here."

After teaching English at a French boarding school four years, Mr. Farver decided to come back to the States and joined the U-High faculty.

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SOARING OVER THE SCHOOL on a moonlight night: from left:
- Freshman Sarah Schlessinger on a bike for children, with training wheels.
- Freshman Ishan Bhanja on a great Canondale bicycle.
- Sophomore Lily Koppal on a女士 Terry bicycle for women.