It's great clean. Students could help us, though, in keeping this class misused, because last year Cramped in a corner outside the faculty smoking lounge, the senior lounge is dirty, say students. There are times and sections I find particularly dirty myself and we've tried, "where Hoganson "It would be really nice for us to have a big room with a college resource center," said College Counselor Mary Erica Aronson, "because one student brought an alarm clock into the lounge at the beginning of the year and had it stolen."

Erica Aronson, "because one student brought an alarm clock into the lounge at the beginning of the year and had it stolen."

"It's a problem. The getting a light bulb changed can take three weeks, teachers say."

"I wanted it to be taken very seriously—and as seriously as the senior took it. Some teachers mentioned that the seniors are lucky to have a lounge. Then faculty began discussing the general disrepair of some areas in the school. Administrators say installing significantly improved lighting in the senior lounge could cost upwards of $2,000."

"This is the worst type because there is nothing you can do about it." Many black U-High boys feel they have been subjected to undercurrents by police though they cannot prove it.

"I was completely embarrassed. I was completely embarrassed."

Because of the school's affiliation with the University, proposals for better teacher representation for black males and females, as well as Asians and Latinos, to provide role models for students. Students here are sophisticated in a way that hopefully by the time their children and my children grow up racism will be scarcer." Honest dialogue about such issues is essential to eliminating prejudice, points out Learning Consultant Frances Moore-Bond, Black Students Association adviser. "Young people are better risk takers than adults and need to stop being cautious and get more involved," Ms. Moore-Bond said. "Today's racism is different because people are smarter about it and it is more covert."

Black U-Highers say they find their experiences so painful they cannot freely talk about their race. They said to my Dad, "We understand they're good kids. Most would not be so lucky." White people within the school might just take it the wrong way and I don't want to suffer for it. I don't want my brother to under­take a black or white thing, but I feel we need better teacher represen­tation for black males and females, as well as Asians and Latinos, to provide role models for students. Students here are sophisticated in a way that hopefully by the time their children and my children grow up racism will be scarcer."

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"I don't want to be a lab out, having people to feel sorry for me, constantly coming up to me saying, 'Oh I read what you said in the Midway. Does this really happen? I feel so bad. Is there any way I can help you?' White people within the school might just take it the wrong way and I don't want to suffer for it. I don't want my brother's who's a freshman to suffer for it. It's like coming out and saying you're gay and dealing with the consequences." Many black students say they would feel more comfortable at school if the faculty had more black members to provide role models, friends or just someone to talk to. The school has experienced difficulty attracting qualified black faculty members because many of them have previously commented on teaching in primarily black schools in disadvantaged areas where they feel they are most needed. Many faculty members also see a need for more black teachers.

"I ask why do we only have four black males in the freshmen class and why we only have one parttime black male teacher in the High School?" said Phys Ed Teacher Ronald Presley. "I don't have a hang-up on a black or white thing, but I feel we need better teacher representation for black males and females, as well as Asians and Latinos, to provide role models for students. Students here are sophisticated in a way that hopefully by the time their children and my children grow up racism will be scarcer."

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S.C. invites other gov’t reps to brainstorm

Condom proposal among table topics

By Joe Fischel

S tudent government representatives from
Francis Parker, Latin and Morgan Park Acad­
emy have been invited to a lunch organized
by Student Council (S.C.) President Randy Saw­
yer, Saturday, Jan. 17 at the Medici. Randy plans a
discussion on how to improve student govern­
ments and ways to increase student involvement
in activities. Randy also plans to see if any of the other schools
have tried condom distribution because he wants to understand they have handled the issue.

"The S.C. Executive Committee feels condom
distribution is an issue that should be addressed by
student government because of suggestions from many students, but mostly sophomores this year," Randy explained. "We want to continue where previous Councils have left off and reach a proposal suitable to parents, faculty and administra­
tors. We hope to do this by gathering input from parents and faculty as well as new ideas through the luncheon. We are not sure what we want to propose yet but we hope the luncheon will give us some ideas."

S.C. President

S.C.'s course evaluations proposal was approved by the faculty at an Nov. meeting after a some­time heated debate.

Proposed in the Communications Commit­
tee last year by Marc Hoffman '97 as well as
Seniors Garron Segal and Pat Spann, Com­
munications Committee president, the evalua­
tions became a S.C. project this year.

The approved proposal allows students 15 minutes to write evaluations at the end of each quarter, according to Pat. If students want to type the evaluation they will have a week to do so and put it in their mailboxes in the U-High office. "If the faculty passed the evaluation, teachers must still take the initiative and implement it," Pat explained. "Each teacher can change the evaluation. We tried to make it clear that this was not a teacher evaluation and that only the individual teacher would see what students wrote." S.C. is also planning to introduce three new

Exotic break destinations beckon

By Mario Perkins

N orth and Australia top exotic destinations
for U-Highers heading out for winter vaca­
tion beginning Friday.

Journeying for two weeks in Nepal, just north of India, Senior Tamir Kipper and her family will take
with a program called "Trekking and Tigers." The program will include long hikes, camping out and

"Having the opportunity to travel somewhere like Nepal is really exciting," Tamir said. "My mother loves to travel, so she does a lot of re­
search to find programs in countries many people don't have the chance to visit. Over the past couple of years, my family and I have traveled to
Thailand, Denmark, Kenya and Ireland. I am par­
ticularly looking forward to this trip because going to Nepal is so uncommon and hopefully it will be really memorable."

Traveling to Melbourne, Australia, Senior Sam Kass will be involved in a baseball program train­
ing among the country competing with differ­
ent Australian baseball teams. "The baseball team is called 'Field of Champions,'" Sam said. "It's basically going to be two weeks of touring around Australia, playing different club teams. Not only do I get to play with different Austra­
lian teams, but I have the opportunity to stay over­
night at a wildlife reserve and visit a Penguin Refuge. I've never been overseas and I'm really looking forward to experiencing the different cul­
tures between America and Australia." Longer trips are planned for winter vacation, including Oregon, California, and Hawaii. "I'm looking forward to sitting in on Fractal Ge­
ometry and Astronomy classes. My family and I will spend a long weekend in Copenhagen and return to Chicago on March 27."

Model U.N.ers head for Harvard

By Andrea Saltel

I n two days, 19 U-High Model United Na­
tions members will venture to Harvard
University in Cambridge, Mass. for four days to participate in their first conference.

Departing for the conference, "The Seychelles Islands, the U-Highers will be among nearly
2,000 delegates from across the nation. They
will debate issues ranging from political pris­
tions to genocide to world finance.

Looking to receive numerous awards as in the past, the U-Highers have at­
tended the conference. Model U.N. students
have met twice weekly beginning in October
with History Teacher Earl Bell, Model U.N. in­
structor to prepare speeches and position
papers. Starting their work last summer,
Head Delegates Jenny Ritten and Cara
Passman, juniors, have been working with
Model U.N. President Josh Donkoff, senior,
for four months. The team will be representing the nation of the United States in the U.N. General Assembly.

"It is one of the best and toughest con­
courses with an emphasis on speaking," Josh said. "There are some aggressive East
Coast students who we must try not to succumb to."

The U-Highers also play some sightseeing
during their stay in Boston. "We are going to
take a day trip to Faneuil Hall, the Freedom Trail, and the USS Constitution," Pat said. "I'm also planning to go out on a whale-watching boat ride in Boston Harbor."

The club boasts more than 100 members.

"We want to continue where previous councils have left off," Pat said. Another S.C.
project, a two-week piano drive, has been planned for February. The class which raises the most pas­
sions will have a class lunch funded by the proceeds as well."

S.C. invites other gov't reps to brainstorm

"We want to continue where previous councils have left off."

Randy Sawyer

S.C. President
Cruising through hills covered by red and orange leaves, we made our way into the land where the Civil War is still not over. In a school van, with History Teacher Paul Horton driving, seven students from the Civil War class took a three-day, 1,200 mile trip south on Interstate 57 into Kentucky and Tennessee to visit famous battle sites and learn firsthand.

"Because the Sea’s and theatre production were the same weekends," said Mr. Horton, "it was a lot smaller group than in previous years. It was easier for me because I knew where everybody was all of the time.

Spending our first night at a two-story, 300-room Americas Best Inn in Paducah, Kentucky, we were able to norm the mall and other outlet stores, which was also how you could see in Paducah.

"It was a weird little town, especially since it was Halloween," said Senior Himmelshoff. "Teenagers in town were either cruising around in their cars or in costume, trick-or-treating.

"Tapping up the next morning at 7, we trodged through a downpour to the van. With the opening of deer season, the countryside was filled with hunters in pickup trucks as we drove to our first stop at the Moonshine Museum. Rushing inside out of the rain, we took 30 minutes to tour around and learn how they made the alcoholic drink from the 'Golden Pond' side of the museum.

"Protection from the increasing rainstorms, we drove a half-hour to a working farm called the Homestead, dating back to 1850. After watching a five-minute movie, we walked out into the farm. Luckily the rain had stopped.

"We didn't know much about the Shakers when we got there, we found out they did not believe in marriage. The next stop we made was a reproduction of a Shaker Village. In front of the "Golden Pond" side of the museum. The Shakers had a fire, built into the ground and surrounded by a ring of candles.

"Noticing the ominous line of storms following us, we hurried over to our last stop of the day, South Union, a Shaker village in Bowling Green, Kentucky. On the way we stopped briefly at the Jefferson Davis Memorial. To my surprise it looked like an exact replica of the Washington Monument.

"Arriving to South Union just as it got dark out, we were wrapped up in our own thoughts. As we drove back towards Chicago on Route 65, we sat in the dark and rainy night, we listened to music and were wrapped up in our own thoughts. "It was a great trip. I am glad I went," Forest said. "I feel like I have learned a lot about the war I couldn't have just reading about it.

Midway wins multicultural award

H umoformed for coverage of ethnic organizations and formation of the gay and lesbian discussion group last year, the Midway has received a 1997 Multicultural Journalism Award from the National Scholastic Press Association. The award was announced at the association’s convention Nov. 13-16 in St. Louis then presented to the staff at the Nov. 18 weekly assembly. The 1992 U-Highlights previously won the award.

In the dead of night he walked

Photo by Jef Himmelshoff

Indian techno music blared in Sunny Gym as Hansa Sawlani, left, and Rusha Desai performed a traditional dance, celebrating the Indian Festival of Lights, Diwali Nov. 5. The presentation was part of an Asian Students’ Association program that also included a brief history of Diwali, a traditional Indian festival.

Airplanes fly, teams soar

Science, Math, Chess Teams rack up wins, awards

Paper airplanes flew in and around plastic hula hoops as eager U-Highers watched in hopes of winning the "Mocha Truck Award" or other honors offered by the Science Team a paper airplane contest organized by student editors. "The Mocha Truck Award," and honors offered by the Science Team a paper airplane contest organized by student editors. "The Mocha Truck Award," honored the student editor with the best paper airplane.

After dominating all their matches this year, the Chess Team’s goals include winning the Catholic League and numerous tournaments over spring break.

"We weren’t in the Catholic league last year but we were in it two years ago," said First Board Player Jonathan Hecken, sophomore. "That’s why we have to win this year. We have to prove that we haven’t lost it over the years.

Paper airplane competition winners are as follows: Plane Performance in All Paper Events (Mocha Wood); First Board Player Jonathan Hecken, sophomore. "That’s why we have to win this year. We have to prove that we haven’t lost it over the years.

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Battle for safety
Two groups wage wars on crime

By Richard Rus
Assistant Editor

Hoping to unify the Hyde Park community in fighting crime, two community groups have been meeting to discuss community safety in the wake of an unusual string of robberies and assaults. The groups are the Interfaith South-Siders Allied In Action and Hope (ISAAH) and the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS).

Formed in March by a coalition of 15 religious congregations, ISAAH focused its first meeting Aug. 13 on shootings in the Hyde Park area. The second meeting Nov. 2 centered on goals.

"Our strategy of getting safety in Hyde Park is built around the fact that I only do things in small increments, as ISAAH members have said," Ms. Janowitz said. "However, I get more accomplished than they do. Their opinion is to go for the throat to get the big job accomplished. This is short term and attracts a lot of attention."

Though ISAAH has united many of the congregations on the South Side, the Hyde Park United Church voted not to be a part of because of its values, according to its minister, Hyde Park-Kenwood Interfaith Council President Susan Johnson, also a U-High parent. "There is a lot of confusion among the attendees as to what exactly it is they are supposed to do," she said. "One reason is that ISAAH's meetings are not democratic."

A "likely" 50 teachers at the Field Museum last month, History Teacher Francis Parker, who organized the exhibit, told the Rev. Hawkins said. "Simply feeding them is not enough. We need to go back to the roots of the issues present in the community."

Similar to ISAAH, CAPS has organized members of the community to discuss social issues. At a Nov. 4 meeting at Kenwood Academy, member discussed issues including gun control.

"At our meeting in November we told people to write out their questions and hand them up so that one person would not monopolize the time," explained CAPS Member Rebecca Janowitz, assistant to Fourth District Ald. Todd Prochacka and a 17-U-High graduate. "The essence of CAPS is that the people who are in control, who have power are the people you want to talk with." CAPS and ISAAH have been described as adversaries in some newspaper coverage.

In terms of so-called friction between us and CAPS I don't see it at all," the Rev. Hawkins said. "In fact I see us working together. Our goals are the same even though we may disagree in ways to proceed."

"On the same floor is the taking of the community back," said Mrs. Janowitz. "People who want to participate in community safety and to isolate us from the rest of the churches that are affiliated with the ISAIAH program."
Helping others

Senior brings holiday spirit of giving to life yearround

By Lisa Clement
Staff Reporter

"When I need to get things done, I get stressed out. Lounging back in a library chair on a recent Thursday afternoon, Senior Reena Hajat adjusts the collar of her forest green sweater, scratches her shoulders and pushes back her chin-length, dark brown hair. As Reena relaxes, the stressful look on her face disappears.

Copresident of the Asian Students Association, busy Reena also was among planners of the "Another Perspective" Day, helped organize the Diwali assembly and has been a member of the tennis team since her freshman year.

"Doing so much," Reena said, "I've learned to set aside a specific time for each extracurricular activity I'm involved in.

In addition to meeting school requirements for community service during her sophomore year, Reena volunteered last year at Inspiration Cafe, a downtown project to feed the homeless and hungry. Both food and dignity and provide resources for self-sufficiency. She also volunteered weekly at Christopher House, a day care and after-school program for children from lower income families.

"I learned to interact with children in a positive way," Reena said. "I came particularly fond of one little girl, Rose. She came from a poor family which was dysfunctional. Every week she came up and gave me a big hug.

Hoping to continue her volunteer work this year, Reena plans to explore an area of community service new to her.

"I would like to do some AIDS work. I haven't experimented with this type of work yet and would like to volunteer some of my time this coming year."

Commuting to school everyday, Reena travels 45 minutes from her home in Burr Ridge, a southwestern suburb.

"I think it has been helpful to go to school in the city. If I went to school in the suburbs, I wouldn't be able to experience different types of people. The suburbs are restricted to one type of person or lifestyle."

"I started the Investment Club because I wanted to try and link student government with the Communications Committee and I also want to serve my peers and get their opinions heard and represented."

Spann the Plan Man

Pat Spann
Senior
Pat Spann. Serving as Student Council treasurer and Communications Committee president, tall, athletic and sharply-dressed Pat says he always tries to get involved.

"I do things for many different reasons," Pat explained, shifting his lanky body during a lunchtime interview. "I started the Investment Club because I wanted to try and link student government with the Communications Committee and I also want to serve my peers and get their opinions heard and represented.

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Pat believes the first step in approaching a task is seeking other people out. "I think with a group of people anything can happen," he explained, "I always look for people to help and support me with my goals for the school, either by assuming a role or just giving support. It is a lot easier getting things done when you have the support of your peers.

"Going here since 9th grade I think I have gained an appreciation for Lab School. The school has provided me with an academic life but it has also shown me there is more to life then academics, like friends and activities."

Pat is considering a career in engineering or economics. "I don't know what my passion is yet," he reflected. "I'm looking forward to engineering because it will allow me to use my creativity to help others. I might also go into economics because it interests me and I have always enjoyed studying how economics affect civilizations."

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The Camel's Back

by Mike Lebovitz

SON, you have to get YOUR APPLICATIONS in. YOU have an IMPORTANT decision to make: WHAT do you want to do with the REST of your LIFE?

6-7
commentary

Talkin’ to U

If you could have anything you wanted in the new Sunny Gym what would it be and why?

CHRIS LIU, senior: "I would like to have a nurse's office because there have been countless times when I have had to walk through the freezing cold and ice storms just to get some ice for myself."

SARA CARRASCO, junior: "Another full court gym, because during basketball season it gets pretty hectic to share one court between so many teams: j/v, girls, varsity girls, freshmen boys, j/v boys, varsity boys and sometimes even Middle School. How can a teacher teach people such as myself focus on our academics if we must stay 'til all hours of the night trying to get court time?"

LIZ MILLER, sophomore: "I want a 40-minute clock so that the track team has to practice five blocks away. We would have more spectators if we had a school gym."

AMY GORIN, freshman: "I think we should build a wave pool because then we could actually live in the pool."

Honor codes only reflect reality dream or nightmare?

A S I WATCHED two junior boys plagiarizing a friend's math homework during 8th period in the library. I dozed off and started dreaming. My dream was in a U-High the future, U-High with an Honor Code. As I waked I saw a friend turn the plagiarizers into the Honor Council for violating the code. Waking up, I wasn't sure whether my dream was a nightmare. I do know some of the people who want an Honor Code here, if they can just get enough people to sign on, the school magically will become honorable. All plagiarizing, cheating and class cutting—however much or little there may be—will be inexcusable. But signing a piece of paper doesn't transform a dishonest person into an honorable one. The school already has rules covering anything an Honor Code might. As an Honor Code only works if people are already honorable. Honor Codes can generate problems rules don't, too. Already, we've heard statements that if a person were honorable they will sign the Code. But many people might not sign the Code for honorable reasons. For example, they may not believe students enforcing the rules are other students a health because it re-God maketh the charts bit-time.

Two singers vaguely inspire

WALKING DOWN the halls of U-High you wouldn't hear students say "I ran out and bought Barbara Streisand's new inspirational album 'Higher Ground.'" Now along with Lutom Rhimes' 'You Light Up My Life,' another inspirational album collection is sold very well. For inspirational albums have been recently occupying first place on the music charts.

Listening in the inspirational boom, Rhimes' album set a national sales record, debuting at number one on the Billboard country, contemporary Christian and pop charts over both James and Marky Harary. Dedicated to the memory of President Clinton's mother, Virginia Clinton Kelly, Streisand's inspirational album 'Higher Ground' also debuted at number one on pop charts. With similar sales observed, the album looks huge.

Vintage Streisand, the quality of singing in "Higher Ground" is top notch, perfectly balanced with an exceptional instrumental accompaniment. With songs such as "I Believe" and "You'll Never Walk Alone" Streisand completely dispels the fear of genius and not differencing with the faith, but never differentiates what "faith" she is referring to. To tell film, Streisand's duet with Cece Dion, Streisand takes an unexpected turn to a popular love song, abandoning her album's already unclear inspirational message, as the two divas clan to owning each other. While exhibiting a well-trained and flexible voice, Lutom Rhimes sings the song on "You Light Up My Life" romantically as if oblivious to their religious meaning. Her detached approach to potentially moving songs like "I Believe" leaves the listener as nothing more than a collection is "Higher Ground." It can't make the dream come true. They are in constant conflict over what their opinions. They don't accept Catholic beliefs but they aren't really liberal. They are consistent more like "can we believe in their search for answers."

Tubes Tales

Elissa Blackstone

presents more like sympathetic than their opponents, there by favoring their opinions. Though the doctor is a stooge, when dealing with people, it's more skill. They don't accept Catholic beliefs but they aren't really liberal. They present more like "can we believe in their search for answers."

The open-minded attitude Father Ray (Kevin Anderson) displays as he signs controversial Catholic beliefs sets the tone for the innovative ABC-TV drama "Nothing Sacred." (Tues., Thurs.-day, channel 7). Part of a recent trendward shows about religion, this show sets itself apart by dealing with these issues directly and thoughtfully. While the Christian Coalition has expressed disapproval because the show divergent from religious beliefs, the show has received consistently rare reviews.

"Nothing Sacred" focuses on the lack of interest in Catholic Church as it deals with the problems in their community. A recent episode featured Father Ray's debate with an atheist doctor about the sanity of a young man who believed he was a prophet. At the same time he show explored the character of another priest, Father Eric, and his identity crisis surrounding his friendship with a woman just out of rehab.

The show's writers deal with each of the issues intelligently, they don't draw simplistic conclusions but leave varied perspectives. They tend to make the world a better place for all of us.

Religion with a twist shows faith in quality

IN THE TRADITIONAL black robe and white collar, Father Ray stands before his Catholic congregation. In a solemn yet calm tone he pontificates about the value of even unconventional beliefs in God. "Which is crazier?" he asks them. "To think you hear God speaking when it's only thunder or to hear thunder when it actually the voice of God?"

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Midway Mailbox

Another perspective on 'Another Perspective'

From Nick Pangere, Sophomore:

I am responding to the Midway editorial in the November issue about the "Another Per spective" conference. I agree with a number of problems existed in the conference, one being the fact that there was no "other perspective." But the real problem with the conference was that it separated students, instead of bringing them together.

The school believes itself to be open-minded and works hard to reach this goal. The Wednesday assemblies are one of the many ways the school tries to open students' minds to other cultures, such as the Tabinet culture.

However, I do believe that the Another Perspective groups were not as productive as they should have been. In my group, Affective Activism, there was trouble breaking away from two specific arguments; either we would talk about the community, or it was a curse. The two arguments were not stated many times in many different ways, but they were still the same arguments. Someone tried to bring in a perspective other than the obvious black and white, that chain of thought was disregarded and the previous discussion arose again.

In essence, it signifies that U-Highers are open minded as long as one person's open minded ideas are the same as another person's open minded ideas. But this only leads to the closing off of new and seemingly radical ideas. In fact, the ideas may not be radical at all, it is just that students have never heard things organized like that in their life and therefore choose to reject them. To fully prepare U-Highers for real life, I believe we must look into opening their minds possibly in a different format that we've used.

A mess becomes mundane

When a problem thresholds within a society long enough, people tend to learn about it, learn to avoid and ignore it. Constant complaining, they learn, is ineffective and not worth the effort.

Forgetting about a problem seems to be what's happening at U-High.

Students and teachers used to complain about the roaches that crawl through our lockers and in the cafeteria. We used to run around but the filth seems to have escaped them.

A new problem has risen; seniors have made objections to the lack of light in the lounge area. Take a stand. Pick up the garbage cans throughout the cafeteria.

Mr. Pangere

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

An 'A' for evaluations

In "John Grisham's the Rainmaker," Danny DeVito plays a morally s h a d o w paralegal who helps young lawyer Matt Damon in prosecuting a corrupt insurance company. The film improves upon the book.

Another perspective on 'Another Perspective'

Nick Pangere

Debating the controversial "Another Perspective" conference, I agree with its intentions. However, the conference lacked perspective and failed to bring together students from different backgrounds.

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A new problem has risen; seniors have made objections to the lack of light in the lounge area. Take a stand. Pick up the garbage cans throughout the cafeteria.
Working to pay for Michigan Avenue, and it's fun too because there is so much going on," said Senior Christine Carwell, who travels to Chicago from her home in Muskegon, Michigan, to do her holiday shopping. For U-Highers who live in Hyde Park and other parts of the city going downtown is both easy and handy.

Shopping traditions "I love going up to Michigan Avenue and Water Tower to do my shopping with my friends, and we get all of our Christmas and Hanukkah shopping done at one time," sophomore Liz Keene said. "There are so many great stores, like Crate and Barrel, Banana Republic and Niketown and I know I will find whatever I need. If I need a gift for a friend I go to the stores they like, for example Gap or J Crew, I guess because I love so close it really is no hassle for me to get downtown to shop."

As for getting the money to do all the shopping with, U-Highers are willing to take almost any kind of job. Babysitting is a favorite. "I enjoy babysitting because I love kids and I make money," senior Angie Keene said. "I also use the money I make to buy presents for my family and friends. Some of the kids I sit for are not always well behaved but I grin and bear it. I mean I am making money and most of the time it's really fun." Keeping it near home Jobs in the neighborhood near to school and home prove most practical. "I work at the Jewish Community Center in Hyde Park during winter vacation," said junior Lily Kreppel. "I have a good time and it doesn't occupy my whole day, so I still have time to relax and do what I want to and I have money to spend on Christmas gifts for my family and friends and sometimes I get clothes and new things for myself."

U-Highers with yearround jobs on weekends or after school find working during the holidays no burden. Most students with steady jobs take advantage of the extra time off school to work longer hours and make even more money while enjoying the change in attitude that the holidays bring shoppers.

"It's a whole different feeling working during the holiday season, It really puts me in a festive mood and gets me into the spirit." -JOSH KALVEN, senior

Gisela Goettling
Singer - Voice Teacher

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Photo by Mike Hoy

Photo by Mike Hoy
holidays

 hectic. Last year I worked Christmas Eve and it got kind of hectic. I was also really surprised at how many last minute shoppers there are."

Some inventive U-Highers combine family trips out of town for the holidays with jobs. "I go to my house in Eagle River, Wisconsin, and I work at a restaurant near my vacation house bus­sing tables," said Junior Mike Zabel. "I enjoy spend­time away from the city during my vacation and I have fun while making money." Others annually trek out of town as part of family traditions. "I drive down to Miami, Florida, where my Mom's family lives," Christina said.

"For some U-Highers their family experiences at holiday time are filled with tension rather than joy because their parents are non-Christians in a predominantly Christian nation. And many adults feel disappointed at holiday time simply because present reality can't live up to past expectations. Like with my parents came to the United States, they aren't as decorated for being non-Christians as a time when Christmas symbols beckon from virtually every streetcorner and lamppost in the Loop and holiday specials on T.V. nearly wipe out the regular schedule, some U-Highers find the experience trying. "On Christmas I feel left out," said Sophomore Lisa Goldman.

"Kids would understand their Christmas experi­ences to me and I would wish I could experience it. But I also feel like I'd be denying my religion, so Christmas is an experience I'll never have."

Although some non-Christians feel they can't cele­brate Christmas and also practice their religion faithfully, others have begun celebrating Christmas for nonreligious reasons. "Whether it's because they enjoy giving presents or respect the religion of their friends, many non-Christians who celebrate do it for fun and say celebrating is a perfect way to fight Christmas depression. "When my parents came to the United States, they decided to celebrate Christmas," said Senior Pavan Makhija. "My religion is very open to other reli­gions but we don't see Christmas as religious. We get a tree, we don't go to church. It's just fun to do the whole Christmas thing."
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RHYTHM OF LIFE
A native dancer honors her heritage
By Sonia Mitr"il

A rush comes over thousands of spectators at the Hartford Civic Center in Connecticut, gathered to watch a Native American holiday celebration packed with dancing, singing and competition: the pow-wow. A drum beats, echoing throughout the room, compelling the crowd to unconsciously sway to the beat. In the midst of all the commotion stands Junior Willow Abrahamson, furiously slide-stepping to the beat, dancing in her own private world.

New to U-High, Willow recently moved with her two sisters and parents to Hyde Park from the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho. Her mother is doing graduate studies at the U. of C.

While some Native Americans dance the pow-wow as their way of praying, Willow explained that she dances mainly for fun. "I get to make friends from around the country and hang out with them at pow-wows," Willow said. "I also like to win, and I would dance more if I could. I would also school at home if I could travel more because dancing is my life."

She ranked second at an annual competition in September in Hartford, Conn., in the teenaged girls' jingle dress category. Willow has also performed for about 100 celebrities including Bruce Willis, Demi Moore and James Earl Jones at the Golden Plate Academic Achievement Awards in June of 1996 at Sun Valley, Idaho.

"Dancing has always been a part of Willow's life," Willow explained. "My family has danced for more than three generations. It gives me a chance to spend time with my family and it provides me with an escape from my problems. Not all Native American youth have somewhere to turn to escape their problems because they are raised in already broken families. Native American culture has been diminished by increasing alcoholism and suicide rates. There are lots of economic problems such as unemployment and low education standards."

Willow is an active member of the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY), a youth group that promotes community service in a drug and alcohol-free environment. Through regular chapter meetings and a national each year, Native American youth share experiences with each other in a compassionate environment.

"This culture has lasted for so long in the face of such adversity," she said, "but now only a few of us take part in pow-wows and understand our heritage. Most Native Americans have now adopted a more modern way of life and no longer understand or relate with their origins. In addition to my work at UNITY, I hope that I will be able to introduce my culture to the school community by dancing."

SET member has been 'produced'
By Andrea Beckett

Winning writer assisting directors and choosing pieces for the Student Experimental Theater (SET) production, Junior Karlis Kanderovskis plans to bring his experience as a professionally-produced playwright to this year's SET board.

Following last year's SET performance of his play, "Fifty Years After," about a jazz musician who gave up his opportunity for fame, Karlis submitted it to the Rocky Mountain Student Theater Project Contest at English Teacher Darlene McCampbell's suggestion.

"I was surprised when the piece won second place and was produced," Karlis said. "It was the first play I'd ever written. I wrote it sort of on a whim." The top four entries were performed by the Golden Nugget Theater Company in Telluride, Colo. in August.

"The play was painful for me to watch," said Karlis, who saw the production on video. "The director didn't really understand what was going on in the play. There were originally four male roles, and in the Colorado version there were two men and two women."
WALKING DOWN THE STREET, SENIOR MIKE HOY PASSES BRIGHTLY-COLORED SIGNS FOR HALF A DOZEN CHINESE RESTAURANTS BEFORE STEPPING INTO A DIN SUM PLACE FOR BREAKFAST. TWO OR THREE HOURS LATER, HE WALKS DOWN THE SAME BLOCK, NOW JOINED BY GROUPS OF PEDESTRIANS, AND CHOOSES A CANTONESSE RESTAURANT FOR LUNCH. FOR DINNER, MIKE DECIDES TO PICK UP A TAKEOUT ORDER FROM A THIRD RESTAURANT.

WHILE HE DOESN’T VISIT EVERY DAY, MIKE SAYS THAT LIVING IN CHINATOWN ON THE SAME BLOCK AS A DOZEN RESTAURANTS PROVIDES A HUGE TEMPTATION. SPANNING EIGHT SQUARE BLOCKS ON CHICAGO'S SOUTH SIDE, CHINATOWN WAS FORMED BY IMMIGRANTS IN THE EARLY 1900S AND QUICKLY BECAME A THRIVING COMMUNITY AND PROSPEROUS TOURIST ATTRACTION.

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“IT IS FUN TO BE ABLE TO GO TO SUCH A WIDE VARIETY OF RESTAURANTS, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY’RE RIGHT OUTSIDE MY DOOR,” MIKE SAYS. “OCCASIONALLY I’LL JUST GO TO A DIFFERENT PLACE FOR EVERY MEAL. AND SOMEBODY IS_SMELLS REALLY GOOD BECAUSE OF ALL THE FOOD COOKING. THEN AGAIN, WHEN YOU LIVE THERE YOU REALIZE THAT SOMETIMES IT SMELLS REALLY TERRIBLE, TOO, ESPECIALLY IN THE ALLEYWAYS WHERE ALL THE RESTAURANTS’ GARAGE IS.”

OTHER THAN RESTAURANTS, MANY U-HIGHERS ENJOY CHINATOWN’S WIDE VARIETY OF SMALL SHOPS WHICH SELL ITEMS RANGING FROM BOOKS TO DECORATIVE TRINKETS. OTHER THAN RESTAURANTS, MANY U-HIGHERS ENJOY CHINATOWN’S WIDE VARIETY OF SMALL SHOPS WHICH SELL ITEMS RANGING FROM BOOKS TO DECORATIVE TRINKETS.

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—MIKE HOY, SENIOR

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Boy cagers take on Caxys powered by returning stars

By Bobbie Stoker

Hoping to take advantage of lake Forest Academy's struggling basketball team, the Maroons hope to win big against the Caxys today in Sunny Gym. J.V. takes the court at 4:30 p.m., varsity at 6.

Led by Seniors Justin Stilgter, former Independent School League (ISL) Player of the Year, Kanga Bennett and Junior Jason Camp, varsity hopes to boost more size with addition of new.

"Having three All-Conference caliber players is a real luxury," Coach John Wilson said. "Each has the ability to create his own shot. That will help us early in the season as new players learn the offense."

In recent years, the Maroons have been run by guards playing no set positions. This year's team includes many players above six feet, allowing for a more traditional style of basketball.

"This team will be able to force other teams to match up against our size," added Coach Wilson. "We can go big or have a lineup of guards and shooters like last year."

Coming after seven practices, the first varsity game against Penger at Mater on Nov. 24 resulted in a 62-69 loss. The game the next day in the Mater tournament set the tone for a season with a crowded schedule and with many three-game sets and back-to-back games.

"The schedule stands right now is crazy," Coach Wilson said. "I was able to move one game to Feb. 20 to lighten the middle of the season but the hard schedule can cause us to lose energy later in the year."

Even with their height, the Maroons still rely on Justin, a guard, to lead with his scoring ability and to be a leader on and off of the court.

"I am really excited about our versatility," Justin said. "This is my first year that we really have had a lot of size, which leads to a more balanced attack. We were able to integrate some new players into the system during summer league."

In its third year, Dance Troop will perform for the first time this year Thursday at halftime of the varsity game against Morgan Park Academy. The 28-member Troop will take center stage in the absence of a girls' varsity basketball program this year.

"As the key to this year's team is Bobby and Aaron," Coach Ronald Presley said. "They need to step up now that they are starting and become more aggressive. David is the leader of the team so far. He handles the ball most of the time and is setting the tempo for the whole team."

With the loss of key players from last year, j.v. players will have to push hard.

"Overall, I think our team will be better than people expect," Coach Presley added. "We will be a thinking team that improves throughout the season. I think we will defend successfully."

"In the middle of the season last year, we had a couple players that were really key," David has proven himself as a smart ball handler and a scoring threat with his outside shot.

"This year's team doesn't have as much individual athleticism as last year," said David before an early season practice. "So we have to compensate by being more team-oriented. I think that the team has enough talent to manage to make it."

First-year Coach Dan Dyra is looking forward to his year as a varsity basketball coach. He coached basketball at Taft.

"I see this team winning because of perseverance and tenacity," he said.

14 sports

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Mr. Sunny

Bob Cobb takes care of the gym and the people in it with style

by Mike Hoy

"Where in the smoke you been? We gotta radiation leak in Upper Sunny to take care off!"

Running up the stairs to the second floor along with a University engineer to check out Sunny Gym's newest problem, Mr. Bob Cobb looks up, points to a radiator and shouts, "Can't we shut that off? It's make the roof fall in. I got a volleyball class in here in five minutes!"

In his 10th year as the Sunny Gym attendant Bob jumps from floor to floor, making sure that everything is running smoothly.

Back and forth from one side of the gym to the other, setting up volleyball nets, painting lines on Jackman Field, and making sure he's there for the beginning and end of every swim class, sometimes Bob can't help but think, "I got a schedule to keep here. First of all, I can't be late. Every morning I get here about 10 minutes early, and I get the suits ready and the nets up. Then I make sure that I have enough towels and I make the morning coffee."

Leaning backwards in his chair after throwing in a load of suits, he reaches over to pour Athletic Director Karen Duncan a cup of his freshly brewed coffee. He chuckles.

At that moment, the next batch of towels is ready. Reaching over and picking a mountain of cotton on his table he half sits, half stands and folds. Having been in the Marine Corps, Bob mentions why he is so rigid with his schedule, and always getting things done. "I was 17 years old. Young, foolish, gung ho and all that other garbage. I wouldn't take no for an answer. For me, I got in the Marines. But what I really repent is not getting my education the way I should have."

Bringing his now folded pile of towels to the towel room he explains about his schooling. "I grew up in West Virginia, right at the bottom of the mountains, with my grandparents. When I was 17 my grandpa said to me, 'Bob, if you're gonna go to school, go to school. But if you're not, don't.' That's when I quit, junior year in high school."

Bob just turns around, looks, smiles and says, "But I turned out all right ... I was a Marine for three years, and after that for 19 years I operated cranes, and for the other 13 I heated the steel so it could be rolled."

Reminiscing about his previous work experiences, Bob explains why he loves the Lab Schools so much. "What I love about this place has got to be the people. I couldn't ask anybody to be nicer to me ever. The kids. And the faculty. I never had any complaints about the way I've been treated."

Planning his retirement Bob feels that this will definitely be his last year at the Lab Schools. "I really wanna spend time with my family. I'd love to bring my grandkids to and from school, or just take it easy every now and then. My family thinks that if I retire I get lay, but I'm ready to stop working."

"I've been working for the last 45 years. That's enough for anybody. I haven't had the easiest jobs, nor have they been my boyhood dream to be a major league baseball player, but I've done my share of work for this lifetime. I'm ready to go."

Kicking back in his chair and flipping on the dryer, Bob takes a quick rest before his next adventure. "Pretty much do everything just as straightforward as I possibly can, I'm pretty simple. I'm the kinda guy where it's gotta be done.""I'm gonna do it."

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smallest Ice World's

Fall teams wind up winners

by Johannes Beeby and Nate Whalen

On their way to State, the girls' cross country team, led by the 10th place finish of Junior Leah Drew, finished 4th of 21 at the Mid-Sub Sectional. Also qualifying were Senior Lucy Scharbach, Juniors Katie Sklarisky and honorable mention for the State Championship.


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Fencing for three years, new junior Philippe Pierre heads later this fall to a world competition in Palm Springs, Calif.

Philippe started fencing at his former school, Chicago International, and became a member of the "Fencing 2,000" Club downtown.

"I immediately liked it even if in the beginning I lost many competitions," said the striking, tall fencer. "In fact, I won my first competition after a year. Now I can compete with people who have been competing for more than eight years.

Philippe practices four times a week and has participated in competitions around the country, in locations such as Santa Clara, Calif., Rockville, Md., Louisville, Ky., and Boston, Mass.

He has also competed in Montreal, Canada, and trained in Europe in Düsseldorf, Germany, and Paris, France. "This is an expensive sport," Philippe said. "I have to pay for all the stuff and I don't get any money yet, but I do get pride, joy and happiness."

--By Florenza Parsons, Midway reporter

Photo by Jeff Ranzer

Gym campaign to kick off
By Johannes Reddy
Sports Editor

Kicking off a $5 million campaign for the renovation of Sunny Gym and construction of a new gym an alschool project. 24 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 25 in Sunny will feature frenc White Tumblers, a parade of U-High athletes in uniform, a drum circle celebration and prize giveaways.

Planned for completion at the turn of the century, work on the old and new gym will be funded through a $5 million campaign, more than $3.5 million of which has already been raised according to Assistant Development Director Ellen Epstein.

The new gym would be erected just south of the present gym, with the two buildings connected by a glass-enclosed hallway.

"The new building will be where Pebbles plays on the forums," Mrs. Epstein said. "Pebbles will be pushed back over the tennis courts and the tennis courts will be in the corner of 59th Street and Danforth Street.

Plans for the new two-story building include a basketball court on the top floor accommodating more than 400 spectators and badly-needed space for phys ed classes on the first floor.

"We are not positive about the specific plans for the first floor of the building," Mrs. Epstein said. "We do know we want to put a small locker room for visiting teams and more gym rooms but where, how big and how many we are not sure of yet.

A regulation soccer field behind the gym also is planned.

"The track that is in Jackman now will be leveled and resodded in preparation for the soccer field," Mrs. Epstein said. "There will still be room for some small track events but not for a full track.

Coming Up: Winter sports outlook

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