

# Thirty newcomers become U-Highers today

Thirty newcomers from other schools and other places became U-Highers today, assuming everyone showed up. The freshman class leads in newcomers, with 24, followed by juniors, with three; sophomores, two; and seniors, one.

Helping the newcomers with their transition should be a top priority for faculty, administrators and returning students, Principal Hanna Goldschmidt said.

"My goal is to make every new student feel wel-

come," Ms. Goldschmidt said. "For Lifers, coming back to school can be a more relaxed thing but for new students there's no way to just say 'relax.' They have to experience it for themselves."

U-High's newcomers, by class, are as follows:

**FRESHMEN**—Amar Bhakta, Jorn Cheney, Nissa Clark, Nicholas Epstein, Zachary Frey, Samuel Gershman, Maeve Hall, Christopher Hemingway, Jessica Hung, Olivia John, Anne Jordan, Russell Kohn, Richard Komaiko, Denise Lopez-Dominowicz,

Lynnae Maciel, Rachel Orlikoff, Joseph Puthenveetil, Shilpa Rupani, Fei Sha, Rashmi Singhal, Michelle Srisuwananukorn, Amitai Stern, Bertha (Hui) Tang, Anamaria Vasilj.

**SOPHOMORES**—Deborah Traub, Emily Wellman.

**JUNIORS**—Michael Drew, Simon Fabich, Joyce Li.

**SENIOR**—Adrienne Victor.

Returning after being away are Juniors Sophie Castro-Davis, Enrique Lomnitz and Steven Wasik and Senior Andrea Earles.

## FIRST-DAY MIDWAY

Volume 75, Number 1 ■ University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 ■ Monday, September 13, 1999

### New spaces, new faces, new year

#### Faculty lounge, tennis courts headline improvements

By **Arielle Levin Becker**  
Editor-in-Chief

**F**aculty members finally have the lounge they have awaited for years, but to make the new space possible seniors have lost part of their lounge.

An opaque glass wall separates the new faculty space in the cafeteria from the smaller senior lounge; the seniors still get the windows.

The new lounge is one of several improvements to the school, including new tennis courts replacing those displaced for construction of the new Kovler Gym.

Still to come are bleachers for the courts, expected to arrive this month, according to Director of External Affairs Eileen Epstein. The courts will be dedicated 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 12.

#### New faces, familiar faces

Six new faculty members make their debuts today. At least two are familiar to U-Highers.

Teaching three freshman English classes, Ms. Barbara Wolf worked as a Writers' Center assistant last year and as a writing tutor the year before.

"I feel prepared by the Writers' Center," said Ms. Wolf, who practiced law before becoming a mother. "It's been a great assistance in knowing a lot of students so I don't feel like a total newcomer."

Another familiar face, Mr. David Witonsky, substituted a quarter for Math Teacher Paul Gunty two years ago.

Having worked on the U. of C. School Mathematics Project last year, Mr. Witonsky says he is eager to return to teaching.

"I had a great time when I taught here before, so I'm looking forward to coming back," Mr. Witonsky said. "I'm excited because it's been a long time since I've been in the classroom."

With high school and college teaching experience, Spanish Teacher Laura Salas Damer comes to U-High from her native Costa Rica.

A teacher's assistant at the U. of C. and Loyola University, Mr. Theodore Gotis will teach chemistry and physics.

#### Guidance changes

In the Guidance Department, Mr. William Leslie Balan-Gaubert will serve as college counselor. He is also a Ph.D. student at the U. of C. He has worked as a coordinator for the Melon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

From the Middle School comes Guidance Counselor Ron Tunis. Middle School Math Teacher Mira Krull will teach one High School class.

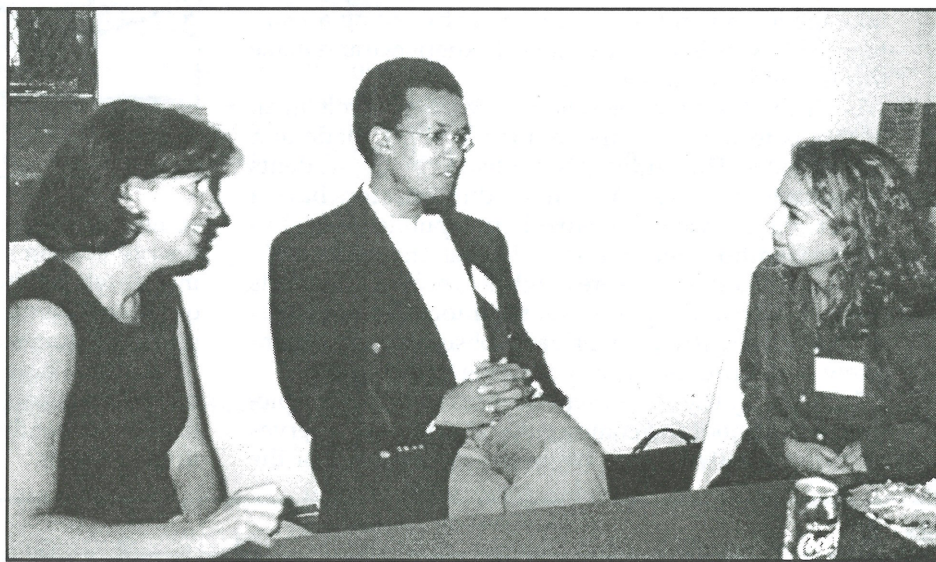
Counselor Patty Kovacs will serve as college counselor and department chairperson.

New staff members include Mr. Carter Gawel, who has replaced Mr. Luka Hrstich as facilities coordinator. Mr. Hrstich went to Latin School, along with Information Technology Manager Shandor Simon and Alumni and Development Associate Gwenda Conner.

Alumni and Development Director Lisa Quinn left to pursue a possible career in golfing.

Several committees are at work on programs affecting the school.

Science Teacher Sharon Housinger and Music Teacher Ellen Everson have joined Community Learning Coordinator Lucy Gomez to plan the weekly



**A PRESCHOOL-YEAR luncheon Sept. 3 welcomed new faculty members before the start of Planning Week. Newcomers, from left, are Ms. Barbara Wolf, English; Mr. William Leslie Balan-Gaubert, guidance; and Ms. Laura Salas Damer, Spanish. Mr. Theodore**

community assemblies.

A committee composed of administrators and parents working on increasing security in the school will continue to meet after developing ideas last spring. Proposals include a wrought iron fence protecting the spaces between Jackman Field and Blaine Hall, and Lillie House and Scammon Garden with a guarded entrance; locking the entrance to Blaine Hall, with a buzzer system to call an attendant; and placing a monitor at the entrance to Judd Hall.

#### Transitional year

Entering what has been announced as her final year as principal, Ms. Hanna Goldschmidt believes the quality of the year depends on the students.

"The positive spirit and positive attitude the students bring with them re-

ally determine the year," Ms. Goldschmidt said. "I hope the students, faculty, staff and administration can really support that and everyone can work toward the goal of a positive year."

"This will be a year of transition and students will become a part of that. Ms. Katz will likely set up a faculty committee to advise the search for a new principal and I'm assuming parents and students will be asked about their opinions on it as well."

Ms. Goldschmidt has been offered for next year a parttime position of dean of faculties, involving faculty hiring, and a teaching position.

A math teacher in the Middle and High schools for 21 years before becoming principal in 1994, Ms. Goldschmidt says she is considering taking the position or returning to a full time teaching position.



**BACKGROUNDED BY construction of the new Kovler Gym, Ralph Ahn, Student Council president, and Ian Kysel, Cultural Union president, plan a year of innovative projects.**

#### Student government plots

## Festival invites filmmaking

By **Joe Fischel**

Student government editor

So you think you can do better than "The Blair Witch Project?" Now you can prove it. All U-Highers will have an opportunity to test their filmmaking skills in the first-ever student government sponsored film festival.

Students are invited to submit short movies on VHS, according to Student Council President Ralph Ahn, senior.

To kick off the festival, during the Wednesday assembly Sept. 22 in Max Palevsky Theater student government members hope to show their spoofs of "The Blair Witch Project" and MTV's "The Real World."

"We are trying to make the spoofs funny," Ralph said. "We are going to do things like have someone with a big physique open their mouth like they are screaming and have a girl scream off camera. We

hope to judge all entries and pick the top five to be shown to the students maybe during Arts Fest and have U-Highers pick the best three and they will receive prizes."

Cultural Union has set the annual Homecoming Dance for 7:30-11 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 2 at International House.

**"We want to break from the norm this year."**  
—SENIOR IAN KYSEL, C.U. PRESIDENT

"We want to break from the norm this year," Cultural Union President Ian Kysel explained. "We want to have a swing dance and vary themes and music in order to attract a wide range of the student body."

As part of today's S.C.-sponsored first-day celebration, juggler Andy Head was scheduled to perform and teach U-Highers how to juggle. The annual pizza lunch and grade-level tug-of-war were also planned.

Student government's theme this year, Ralph said, is "It's What You Make Of It."





"I am looking forward to seeing some of the few people I kicked it with during the last school year and playing in the sporting events that are awaiting my participation. I'm also looking forward to seeing my good friend and mentor Ronald Presley smiling in the halls."  
—Junior Ayinde Bennett

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

## More lemonade, please

If U-Highers learned one lesson from last year it is that they are great at taking lemons and making lemonade from them.

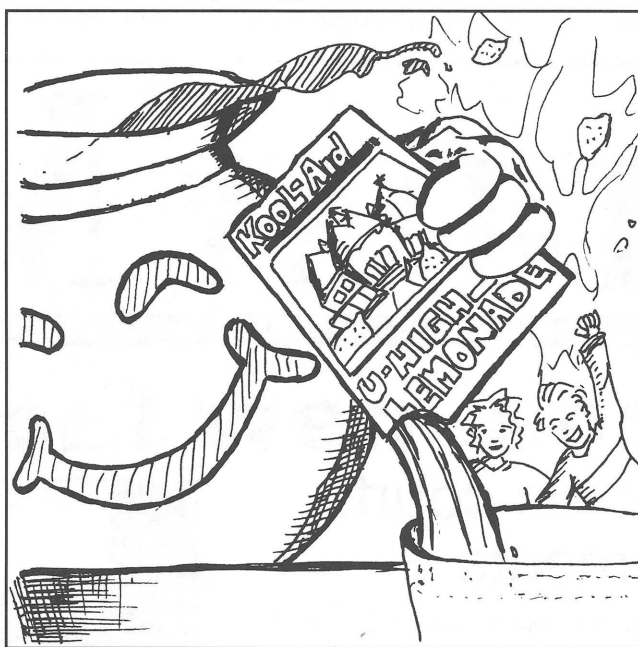
After hate graffiti appeared in the school last year, it was U-Highers who ultimately took the reins and with open and honest discussion brought a new quality of concern about individual dignity to the school.

U-Highers again made lemonade last year when the coach which the varsity basketball team expected didn't get the job and a parent did. Rather than dwelling on their disappointment, the players got to work with their new coach and won a league championship.

A lot more lemonade will need to be made this year. It has been announced that this will be Principal Hanna Goldschmidt's last year as principal. It remains to be seen if that will indeed be the case. But U-Highers can take the lemon and make lemonade by taking advantage of Ms. Goldschmidt's years of experience and make this her and the school's best.

As for the Midway, the school newspaper's role in all of this is to report on the lemonade being made and how it tastes. The Midway is published by the students in journalism classes. Although administrators have a legal right to review the paper before publication it has been a tradition since the school began that they don't. The faculty adviser insures high journalism standards are maintained and points out to editors any problems with libel, invasion of privacy, obscenity or content likely to disrupt the orderly running of the school.

The Midway tries to present the broadest possible picture of the school and community. The paper also serves as a community forum. We invite all members of the



Art by Ralph Ahn

community to submit signed letters or guest columns for publication. In its editorials, the Midway recommends what editors believe is best for the school based on information gathered in the process of reporting the news. We come to each editorial with no other agenda. No matter how many lemons grow this year or how bitter they taste, U-Highers can continue to make sweet-tasting lemonade. The recipe for a great school is truly in their hands.

## In the end, U-Highers make own destinies

NOW ENTERING my fourth and final year at U-High (keep your fingers crossed) I have come to know some really great people throughout the school community.

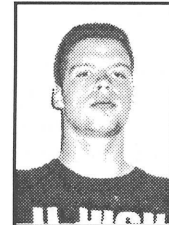
I've also come to realize that the school as it portrays itself does not give a complete view of its students. The school tends to focus on what the school does for them, instead of what U-Highers do for themselves.

With my first introduction to U-High coming from a brief Open House I attended before my freshmen year, I learned many things about the school that it obviously wanted me to come away with.

The first and foremost fact the school wanted us to know was the outstanding record it had in terms of academics, from the A.P. classes to the kids traveling to the U. of C. to get a college education in high school.

The second fact the school comes back to again and again is that, from the Stanfords to the Harvards, our student body does go to some of the best institutions of higher learning.

But what I've learned during my time



### Opinion

Bobby Stokes

here is the best learning U-High students can get is not from their school but instead from themselves.

While any school can teach you as much advanced math as your adolescent brain can handle, the most educational thing U-High lets its students do is to control their own destiny from what to do with their free time, to the classes they take throughout their four years here.

As underclassmen become upperclassmen this advantage becomes more and more apparent. As some people go the easy route with their schoolwork and put their considerable talents into

(continued on page four)

## Number one... but not for long

IT DOESN'T GET MORE "mainstream" than the Backstreet Boys. You hear them all the time on B96, watch their videos on MTV between commercial breaks, and your friend's 12-year-old sister probably owns both of their CDs. The big question on my mind however, is: Why does everybody love this group of mama's boys?

Although they actually perform their own vocals (unlike certain boy groups of the past) it is unclear why a group of guys with so little talent has hit so big. Signed by Jive Records, the quintet from Orlando, Fla., had their first album, "Backstreet Boys" released first in Europe, where boy groups such as Take That and Boyzone had already established a market for teenybopper music.



### Music

Cyrus Dowlatshahi

ropes. Whatever the reason for their success, they sure succeeded; their first album, released in 1995, sold more than five million copies. Yep, those European girls sure loved them.

In fact, there have been many stories of psychotic fan behavior that hasn't been seen since the Beatles-era. According to Seventeen magazine, two fans once hid in the storage hold of the group's tour bus and another once scaled a barbed wire fence to get into their dressing room. Still, the Psychotic-Backstreet Boys-12-year-old girl-syndrome award

goes to the young lady who gave Backstreet Boy Alexander James "A.J." McLean two diamond rings... which turned out to be her parents' wedding bands.

But the music is not even good! The orchestrations accompanying each song are monotonous and all the songs sound like one another. I could've sworn the first time I listened to their new C.D. "Millenium" my stereo was repeating track one over and over again.

But I must be underestimating the country's 12-year-old populations' willingness to waste money. In its first week "Millenium" sold 1,133,505 copies... the most albums sold in a week ever since SoundScan began recording sales figures. It went right to the number one spot on the charts, a rare occurrence because most second albums don't near the sales of the first.

It won't last, though. We've seen it before with Marky Mark and New Kids on the Block; soon (very soon) the Backstreet Boys will die out. The members of the group will be seen, perhaps, acting in small-time plays; working at the car wash; or maybe you'll even toss a quarter into their cardboard box the next time you're walking down Michigan Avenue.

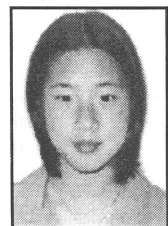
The bottom line is, they'd better enjoy their 15 minutes of fame, because it is almost up. I just wish someone had told that to the girl whose parents lost their diamond rings.



## YOUR SAY IN THE MIDWAY

Compiled by Ameer Saleh

What are you most looking forward to this school year and why?



Michelle

**MICHELLE SRISUWANANUKORN, freshman** (from Wilbur Wright Middle School, Munster, Indiana): Since I don't know anyone at Lab, I'm looking forward to meeting new people and checking out my classes. I'm also looking forward to playing more sports this year.

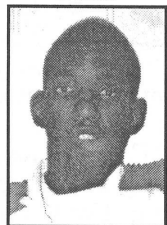
**MARA RAVITZ, sophomore:** I am looking forward to another good school year and getting to see all my friends again. Even though I enjoyed my freshman year, I am looking forward to having an even more prosperous sophomore year.

**SOLA ONI, junior:** I'm looking forward to finally being an upperclassman and having to apply myself during this challenging year. Also finally getting to see all my friends that I didn't see this summer, in school.

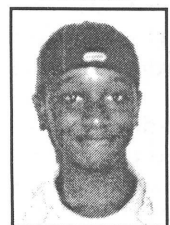
**CHARLES SIMMONS, senior:** I am looking forward to meeting all the freshmen and making sure they have a smooth and painless transition.



Mara



Charles



Sola

## Mailbox: A misrepresentation

From Ms. Heather Field Grenee, High School Civil Liberties Education Project Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Chicago:

I WAS DISMAYED after the article "Rights under attack after school attack?" in the May 25 edition of the U-High Midway. My answers to the reporter's questions were misquoted and paraphrased beyond recognition.

The article makes it seem as if the High School Project and the American Civil Liberties Union does not care about school safety. This perception is far from the truth.

The ACLU's primary concern is not how certain school rules might interfere with parental authority. Instead, we are concerned that school officials might use the isolated incidents of violence as an excuse to diminish the few rights students currently possess.

Administrators should temper their concern for safety with a healthy respect for the rights and individuality of the students at their schools. Otherwise we run the risk of institutionalizing repressive and conformist policies that will long outlive the panic that gave rise to them.

Educating youths to understand their role in our democratic society is supposed to be a primary function of our public education system. Students should not be taught these lessons in an environment that requires them to sit down and shut up. I stressed to the reporter that a balance between democratic education and safety should be found.

(Midway Adviser Wayne Brasler responds, "The student who wrote this story admitted after it was published that he had not checked the facts or quotes. He is no longer in the journalism program.")



"I've always loved the U-High community and sports in general, so this is the perfect combination for me."

-Ms. Clarissa Booth, '96 graduate, new j.v. volleyball coach



# Youth keys fall outlook

By Mike Lamb  
Sports editor

The accent is on youth this fall as varsity soccermen rely on five underclassmen for starting spots and the girls' tennis and volleyball teams count only one senior each. Three new coaches will add to the mix.

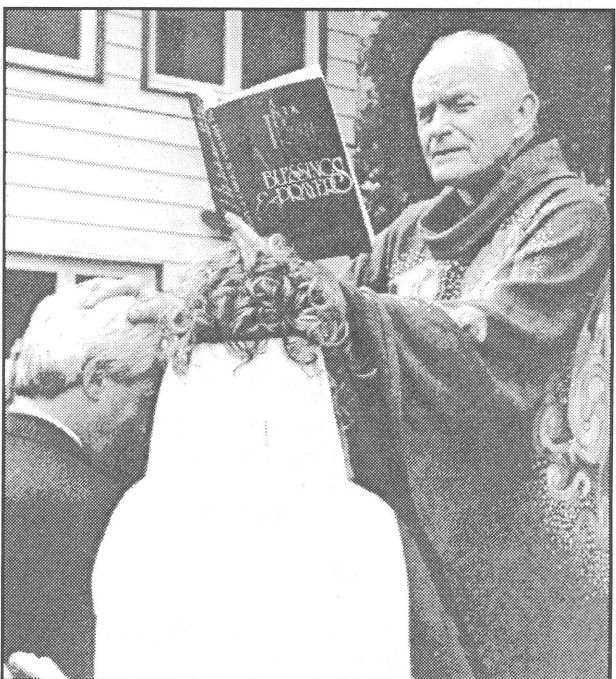
Off to a shaky 1-5 start, varsity soccermen rebounded by tying Independent School League champion Lake Forest Academy 3-3, Sept. 7 on the Midway. The Maroons' first victory, 3-0, Sept. 1 against Notre Dame, was followed by losses to Niles West, 1-2, Sept. 2 and Niles North, 2-6, Sept. 4 for a fourth-place finish in the Niles West Tournament.

The first three losses came against State Champion-caliber Buffalo Grove Aug. 27, 0-8, and the following day against Kelly, 0-2, and defending Public League champion Amundsen, 1-2, all in the Buffalo Grove Tournament.

## Coach feels encouraged

After the close back-to-back losses to Kelly and Amundsen, Varsity Coach Mike Moses felt encouraged about the U-Highers' outlook.

"Our efforts that day proved to me that we can win the Independent School League title without a doubt," Coach Moses said. "I also believe that we can move on to the second or third round of Regionals



## Blessed

Photo courtesy Ms. Brenda Coffield

ON A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER DAY June 19 at the Michigan home of Father Andrew Greeley, Phys Ed Teacher and Coach Larry McFarlane and Lower School Teacher Donna O'Sullivan were wed before family and friends. The sun-kissed ceremony culminated a longtime friendship.



ON BLEACHERS still to arrive, fans for the first time will be able to watch tennis games seated comfortably as part of the new tennis courts constructed behind Lillie House. Girls' tennis team

as well."

Despite losing four-year starter and All-Stater Andy Rosenband to graduation, the Maroons boast a roster of 28 boys, five to 10 more than in previous years.

"Hopefully our abundance of players will have the starters always looking over their shoulders and pushing to play their best," Coach Moses said. "The loss of Andy might actually help, because everybody will be playing on the same level."

## On the road

Captains Chris Oakes, David Wilson, David Straus and Reid Tokarz, all seniors, hope to notch an important road victory against archrival Francis Parker 4 p.m. tomorrow.

Vying for their fifth straight ISL championship, j.v. will go with freshman talent including Mike Snidal and Ryan Sturgill to replace the three underclassmen moved up to varsity. Coach Ron Presley has created a dynasty among the j.v. ranks and believes the Maroons can win the title as long as they come together as a team.

"With a younger team, we will obviously be less physical, so we need our sophomores to step up," Coach Presley said. "Our captains-Sophomores Josh Levine, Greg Domingue, David Bluestone and Roberto Michelassi-will be the deciding factors in our season."

After their third-place ISL finish last year, varsity tennis girls are working toward a championship. With a 4-1 victory at Woodlands, Sept. 3, the Maroons are on their way.

The young but experienced nine-girl squad includes Sophomores Jenny Heydemann at first singles and a first doubles team of Mara Ravitz and Emma Barber.

Although they don't have a senior in the regular rotation, the younger players are tournament-experienced, having toured the country playing heavily contested matches. In fact, Jenny, Mara, Emma and

members broke in the courts with preschool practices. "There'll be a different wind in the new location," said Varsity Coach Gerold Hanck, "but we can't judge the speed of the courts yet."

Junior Adrienne Clark went to Europe this summer to play in tournaments overseas.

With this experience in hand, they look to better their 6-1 conference record from a year ago.

The nine-member j.v. team is focused on repeating last year's undefeated conference mark of 4-0, as they swept Woodlands 5-0, Sept. 3.

J.V. Coach John O'Connor looks with enthusiasm to the tough conference schedule highlighted by two meetings with perennial power Francis Parker. But first the Maroons need to get by Sandburg, 4 p.m. tomorrow, on the road.

"After last year's finish and with this year's potential, there's no doubt in my mind that both the j.v. and varsity can win the ISL," Mr. O'Connor said.

Inexperience is the number one factor hampering varsity volleyballers as they look to get younger players more time. The lone returning players, Cocaptains Jamie Jo Tyler, junior, and Tai Duncan, senior, the only experienced varsity player, hope to lead the 11-girl team during this rebuilding year.

## Coach cautious

After last year's second-place ISL finish, Varsity Coach Joyce Stiles is cautious about this year's outlook.

"Every game will be a challenge for us because of our inexperience," she said. "We're even starting a freshmen, Emily Palmer."

Despite losses at St. Scholastica, Sept. 2, at home against Latin, Sept. 3, and Lake Forest Academy, Sept. 7, the Maroons hope to come back with a home win against Willows at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow.

A familiar face at U-High is the new j.v. coach. Top '96 sports star Clarissa Booth has replaced Mr. Dan Dyra, whose team finished 6-2 last season. Wins Sept. 2 at St. Scholastica and Latin Sept. 3 indicate Ms. Booth will produce as much star power as a coach as she did a student athlete. The girls lost to Morgan Park Academy Sept. 7 at home.

A transition year looms as a coaching overhaul is in the works for girls' swimmers. Replacing last year's coaches, Mr. Larry McFarlane and Ms. Laura Lantinga, Ms. Marty Billingsley and Lower School Teacher Sylvie Anglin both have swimming experience in competitive events around the Midwest.

"I think that our swimming knowledge will make up for our lack of coaching experience," Ms. Billingsley said.

In a Sept. 2 loss to Shepard, swimmers were forced to compete as varsity only, because only eight swimmers showed up, about 15 fewer than last year.

But swimmers like Sophomore Jessica Naclerio are still excited about the upcoming season.

"The team's a lot of fun and I think we still have a decent team," Jessica said. "Our first meet wasn't as bad as we had expected, due to our strong swimmers in the freestyle and breast stroke."

The Maroons look to improve upon their previous showing taking on Maria 4:30 p.m. tomorrow at home.

After last year's strong finish, Cross Country Coach Bud James believes the Maroons can repeat their conference championship from a year ago.

"We lost some key runners from last year, as usual," he said, "but we still have a good nucleus of runners this year. I look for our captain Sandy Craig to step up and lead us to state again."

About nine runners have been practicing since Sept. 7 preparing for the ISL preseason meet Wednesday, Sept. 22 at Lake Forest Academy.

# Fall sport team schedules

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY-ISL Preseason Meet**, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 22 at Lake Forest; **Quigley Invitational**, 9 a.m., Sept. 25 in Lincoln Park; **Home Meet**, 4:15 p.m., Jackson Park; **Lisle Mane Event**, 9:30 a.m., Oct. 2, Lisle Senior High School; **Home Meet**, 4:15 p.m., Oct. 5 in Jackson Park; **ISL Conference Meet**, 4 p.m., Oct. 7 in Jackson Park; **St. Scholastica**, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 12 in Rogers Park; **Latin Prep Classic**, 4:15 p.m., Oct. 14 in Lincoln Park; **Prospect**, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 19, away; **Regionals**, Oct. 23; **Sectionals**, Oct. 30, State, Nov. 6.

**BOYS' SOCCER-Already played:** Buffalo Grove, varsity, Aug. 27-38; Niles West Tournament, varsity, Sept. 1-4; Lake Forest Academy, Sept. 7, home; Elgin Academy, Sept. 9, away. **Coming up:** Francis Parker, 4 p.m., Sept. 14, away; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 17, away; Latin, noon, Sept. 18, home; De La Salle, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 22, home; Morgan Park Academy, j.v., 4:30 p.m., Sept. 25, away; Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Sept. 28, varsity, away; Lake Forest Academy, Oct. 2, 4:30 p.m., away; Elgin Academy, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 5, home; Francis Parker, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 7, home; St. Rita, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 11, home; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 13, home; Latin, 4 p.m., Oct. 19, away; Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Oct. 20, home; Regionals, Oct. 22; State, Nov. 6.

**GIRLS' TENNIS-Already played:** Woodlands, Sept. 3, away; Lake Forest Academy, Sept. 8, home; Elgin Academy, Sept. 9, home. **Coming up:** Sandburg, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 14; St. Ignatius, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 15; Francis Parker, 4 p.m., Sept. 17, away; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 21, home; Fenwick, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 23, varsity away, j.v. home; Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Sept. 24, away; IMSA Quad, 9 a.m. Sept. 25; Latin, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 27, away; Latin Tournament, 8 a.m., Oct. 2; Nazareth Academy, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 4, away; Loyola, 4:15 p.m., Oct. 5, varsity away, j.v. home; Immaculate Heart of Mary,

4:30 p.m., Oct. 6, home; ISL Conference, Oct. 8-9; Francis Parker, 4:15 p.m., Oct. 12, home; Sectionals, Oct. 15-16; State Tournament, Oct. 21-23.

**GIRLS' SWIMMING-Already played:** Shepard, Sept. 2, away. **Coming up:** Maria, 4 p.m., Sept. 14, home; Argo, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 17, away; St. Ignatius, 5 p.m., Sept. 22 at University of Illinois Circle Campus; Riverside-Brookfield, noon, Sept. 25, away; Evergreen Park Invitational, 10 a.m., Oct. 2, away; Kenwood and Whitney Young, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 5, at Whitney Young; Fenwick, 5 p.m., Oct. 8, away; St. Scholastica, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 12, home; Regina, 4:15 p.m., Oct. 15, home; Morton, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 19, away; Nazareth Academy, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 26, home; Riverside-Brookfield, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 29, away; Evergreen Park, 4:30 p.m., Nov. 2, away; Sectionals, Nov. 13; State, Nov. 19-20.

**VOLLEYBALL-Already played:** St. Scholastica, Sept. 2, away; Latin, Sept. 3, home; Morgan Park Academy, Sept. 7, away; Luther North, Sept. 9, away; Luther East, varsity, Sept. 11. **Coming up:** Willows, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 14, away; Woodlands, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 17, away; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 21, away; Holy Trinity, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 23, home; Lake Forest Academy, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 24, away; Latin Tournament, j.v., Sept. 25, away; Latin, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 27, away; Trinity, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 4, away; St. Benedict, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 6, home; St. Benedict, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 6, away (varsity game first); Willows, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 8, home; Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., Oct. 12, away; Woodlands, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 13, home; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., Oct. 15, home; Shepard Tournament, varsity, Oct. 16; North Lawndale, j.v., 4:30 p.m., Oct. 18, home; Lake Forest Academy, 4:30 p.m., Lake Forest Academy, home (varsity game first); Luther East, 4:45 p.m., Oct. 21, home; Regionals, Oct. 25.





"The true heroes of the production were the cast members, especially several U-High students."  
—Middle School Drama Teacher John Biser  
Writer and director of "Langston's Lab," presented this summer

## Students win raves for play

By Sonia Mittal  
Editor-in-Chief

Performances of Lab Schoolers in this summer's production of Middle School Drama Teacher John Biser's play "Langston's Lab" equaled those of the professionals in the cast, several critics said.

"If it weren't for the age differences," wrote Jack Helbig in the Chicago Reader, "I'd be hard-pressed to tell who in the cast was a student and who a pro. Fine performances by the Lab School kids, playing themselves and reciting Hughes' poetry, do nothing to challenge their reputation for precocity."

Mr. Biser first presented the play in the Lab Schools summer theater program in 1996. It recounts the internationally-known black writer's three months at the school in 1949 as an artist-in-residence. Lab Schools Director Warren Seyfert had extended the invitation to Hughes despite North Shore Country Day School cancelling a speech by him because of Communist-flattering poetry he had written in the early 1930s but since repudiated.

Hughes taught students at all grade levels, from kindergarten to 12th grade, as a member of the Unified Arts Department. Mr. Biser based the play on material in the Lab Schools archives, newspaper articles and Hughes' own poetry.

Some of the teachers' dialogue was taken from Hughes' notes and actual former faculty members portrayed included the late Unified Arts Department Chairperson Robert Erickson and Librarian Blanche Janeczek.

In this summer's Prologue Theatre presentation at Court Theatre, Lower School Teacher Marjorie Hillocks, '77 graduate, portrayed Ms. Janeczek and another role and directed the kindergarten scenes.

Megan Dawson, '93, served as project coordinator, stage manager and costume coordinator.

Music created in the jazz class taught by Mr. Langston and Mr. Erickson was integrated into the play, along with Mr. Langston's poetry interpreted in song and dance by youthful muses cloaked in black



Photo by Mr. Eugene Zakusilo  
**RAVE REVIEWS** were won by students in this summer's presentation of Middle School Drama Teacher John Biser's play "Langston's Lab." Steve Gilpin, '99, left, and Freshman Michael Chandler portrayed U-Highers in the play, set in 1949.

leotards and adorned with glitter makeup. Original music for both the original and new productions was composed by Senior Sam Gilman.

Receiving special praise, Steve Gilpin, '99 graduate now at Bard College, portrayed a wheelchair-bound student who challenges Hughes on his early leftist leanings, a largely fictional part of the play.

"The true heroes of the production were the cast members," Mr. Biser said, "especially several U-High students. Sam Gilman's music doesn't just enhance the play; the tunes stand alone as darn good jazz pieces. Sheila Carrasco, leader of the Muses, is a powerful actress and singer who instantly gained the respect of the other professionals. Steve Gilpin gave a brilliant performance."

Other U-High actors included Freshmen Nora Becker, Michael Chandler, Julia Halpern and Ross Knorr.

does is cause U-Highers to become their own people in control of their own destinies.

And while I get closer to the time when I will have to leave for an institute of higher learning, I am glad that I was given these responsibilities here rather than when I'm already gone from the only people who I can rely on for good, my family.

So when people say that many U-Highers are given the opportunity to waste their time and let their responsibilities drift away, I think that they are in turn just coming to learn how to handle things on their own.

And we will always do this at a different pace and with a different sense of direction. So the next time you think that more structure is needed for U-Highers think of the lack of control they will have later when structure is minimal and responsibility is the highest.

## Yearbook photos coming early

Student portraits for the 2000 U-Highlights will be taken earlier than in past years, announces Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler, who advises the yearbook with Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts.

"Parents have asked that we return photo packages earlier," Mr. Brasler said, "so our photo studio suggested we take the photos earlier. Seniors will be photographed in the courtyard outside Blaine Hall Tuesday, Sept. 28; Wednesday, Sept. 29; Friday, Oct. 1; and Monday, Oct. 4. Schedules will be posted on the senior board and information is being mailed home."

"Juniors, sophomores and freshmen will be photographed Wednesday, Oct. 6 in Gerstley Center. Information forms will be handed out in advisories and schedules will be posted on class boards."

"The faculty will be photographed Friday, Oct. 15 in classrooms and offices."

Three seniors have been appointed editors-in-chief of the 2000 yearbook. They are Natalie Bump, Darlyn Pirakitikulr and Nirav Shah.

One of the 1999 editors-in-chief, David Straus, separately will work as editor-in-chief of the People section.

"We expect the '99 yearbook to arrive next month," Mr. Brasler said, "even though the staff worked until the end of July to finish it. The printer got right to work on it and we saw the proofs several weeks ago. The book is packed with photos, stories and quotes and the cover is really colorful."

Other 2000 U-Highlights staff members include Shilpa Gulati, business and advertising manager and design editor; Pankaj Chhabra, Life editor; Chris Oakes, Learning editor; Apoorva Chawla, Organizations editor; and Harry Goudge, Adrienne Clark and Adrienne Umeh, Sports editors; and Jonathan Phillippe, Community editor.

MC Oxtoby will serve as photo editor and Tai Duncan as sports photo coordinator.

The other '99 editors-in-chief were Carla Goudge, now at Wellesley College, and Jennifer Jones, now at Pomona.

## Editors promise newsy paper

A newsy paper every three weeks beginning Oct. 12 is promised by this year's Midway staff, headed by three senior editors-in-chief, Arielle Levin Becker, Sonia Mittal and Bobby Stokes. With several other staff members they returned to school late last month to prepare this first-day edition.

"Last year we found that readers really responded especially well to the news stories we did, and so we decided to use that as a more central part of this year's paper," Arielle said. "Hopefully, that should help really reflect and serve the school."

This year's staff also includes Chris Perez, business manager, who also will edit the photofeatures page; Cyrus Dowlatshahi, advertising manager; associate news editors Joe Fischel, Libby O'Neill and Ameer Saleh; and sports editor Mike Lamb.

Judith Disterhoft, who won numerous honors last year as commentary spread editor and film critic, will continue in those positions this year. Logan McBride will edit the paper's in-depth newsfeatures spreads and serve as community editor.

Arielle will serve as political editor for the second year and Joe student government editor for the third year.

Besides Judith columnists will include Bobby, opinion; Cyrus, music; Chris, T.V.; Natalie Hoy, fashions; and Mike, sports. Bobby would also like to start a restaurant review column with a different writer each issue. For the second year, Ameer will compile the popular "Your Say in the Midway" column.

Katie Shapiro will serve as photo editor.

Last year's Midway found favor with judges of the National Scholastic Press Association, which awarded the paper its highest rating, All American. The paper was edited by Rachel Shapiro, now at Stanford University, and Nate Whalen, now at Wesleyan.

"Overall, this is an excellent paper which makes it difficult to critique because some comments seem so minor," judges commented.

Suggestions included simplifying design and better balance between coverage of boys' and girls' sports and varsity and j.v. teams.

## Literary-art magazine coming this month

Last year's issue of Renaissance, U-High's literary and art magazine, will be distributed to sophomores, juniors and seniors during lunch, Monday-Wednesday, Sept. 27-29 in the High School lobby, according to Fine Arts Department Chairperson Joan Koblick, faculty adviser with Foreign Language Teacher Steve Farver. The staff decided to forgo distributing the magazine in the spring, as in previous years, to allow time to achieve the quality they wanted. The staff will meet later this week to decide how to distribute the magazine to '99 graduates, according to Senior Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl, coeditor-in-chief with Senior Matt Cameron.

## Destinies

(continued from page 2)

our numerous cocurricular activities, others pile on the work. The fact these options are available results in U-Highers being more independent than most high school students.

While discussing the daily grind of school with some friends from public schools this summer, I came to realize the independence that I have come to expect is not a part of their day. From having classes every period for four years, to the set curriculum that controls the destiny of many students, their high school experiences have been much different from mine.

While this independence does result in some flourishing while others struggle to balance their time with responsibilities, what it really

## Brief-ly Magazine cites Director as leader

Among "100 Women Making A Difference" spotlighted this summer by Today's Chicago Woman Magazine, Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz gave as her advice, "Clarify your personal and professional goals continually."

In its profile of Ms. Katz, the magazine said, "As head of the school, Lucinda oversees a staff of 275 and almost 1,700 students, Nursery through 12th grade. She commits herself daily to maintaining high standards for all the children

and to bringing a new understanding of multicultural education to the institution.

"She serves as vice president of the Chinese

American Service League (CASL) and is currently chairing the CASL capital campaign to build a new community center. Lucinda believes that in order to succeed professionally, you need to know your mission for the organization and create a growing and learning atmosphere."

■ **OUR HOUSE IS YOUR HOUSE**—Parents, mark Monday, Sept. 27 on the calendar. That evening the annual Open House at 7 p.m. will invite moms and dads to follow their U-Highers' daily schedules and hear their teachers outline their course objectives and learning goals. The difference is the parents only have to attend each class for 15 minutes. U-Highers should have it so easy.



Mrs. Katz