

# U-HIGH MIDWAY

Volume 76, Number 1 ■ University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 ■ Monday, September 11, 2000

## U-Highers get discipline role in Board plan

By Abigail Newman  
Front page editor

U-Highers unhappy with how the school handles discipline may get their chance to have a say in discipline enforcement. A proposal for a Discipline Board would give students and teachers a role in discipline decisions for the first time since the mid-1960s.

The Board would include seven students along with six faculty members. Under a plan the faculty reviewed at a meeting last Thursday, students would nominate both fellow students and faculty members through advisories.

People from all facets of the school community—students, faculty members, parents and even administrators and Lab Schools Board members—have complained in recent years that discipline is not given out consistently, that factors such as parents being influential in the community or University figure into discipline decisions.

Faculty members have been particularly bitter about discipline decisions being made or changed at the administrative or possibly the Lab Schools Board or University level. In one case, the grade a teacher gave a student after discovering plagiarism was changed without the teacher's consent.

Following a faculty no-confidence vote in the administration last fall, partially because of discipline issues, the Lab Schools Board moved to form a Discipline Review Committee. It included Board members, administrators, faculty members, parents, students and a graduate.

After several months of intense discussion, the committee recommended the Discipline Board.

"Discipline has always been an issue," explained Mr. Dan Schlessinger, a '71 U-High graduate, U-High parent, Lab Schools Board member and Discipline Review Committee member. "It became more heated in the last couple of years because there was more of an issue of how discipline was being handled and how even-handed it was."

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## Jack Knapp sets off on his Mission Possible

### ■ New principal ready to bring out the best

By Mike Lamb  
Editor-in-Chief

To some he may be a man on a mission. To others he may be a man with a plan, but U-High's new principal, Jack Knapp, simply considers himself a man who has seen it all.

Mr. Knapp is no stranger to independent schools such as U-High, as he has 30 years' experience from a Lab School in Milwaukee to, most recently, Miami Country Day School.

After earning his Ph. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Knapp started his career in education. Bouncing around the country has allowed him to have experience in just about every setting.

"Hey, if I haven't seen it all, I've heard it all," he exclaimed with a laugh, as he lounged around in his office chair. "The thing about U-High is that it is still one of the great independent schools, but when it was founded it was the premiere school in the country. I think we can get back there, no question."

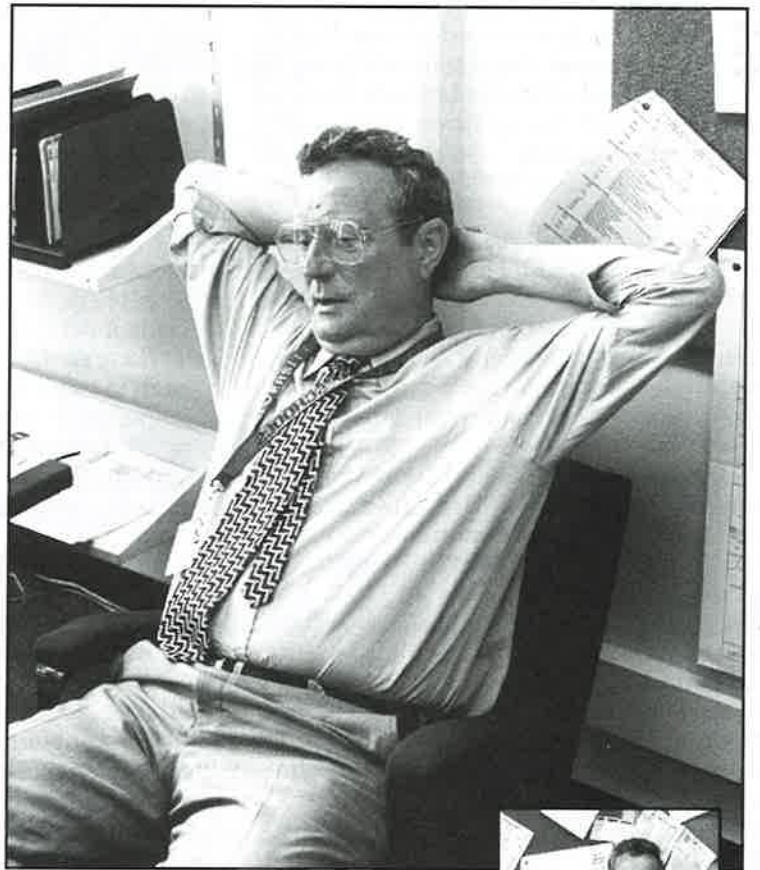
To get a sense for where the school is at, Mr. Knapp said he has spent the summer listening to the "constituents" of the school as he calls them—faculty, parents, students and administrators.

In these discussions, some troubling issues were brought up, he said.

"As I was listening, I heard too many we's, they's and them's rather than us's," Mr. Knapp explained. "I hope to fix that, because to get where we need to be, we have to do it as a community. That will be one of my goals—breaking down the real or imagined barriers between the different constituents. It just seems like everyone is pitched into different camps, instead of a 'we're in this together' atmosphere."

Community building is a key to Mr. Knapp's plan of action which also includes upgrading the senior year, improving technology within the school, changes in scheduling and curriculum and a fair and timely discipline system.

"This school does so many things well, but there's also a lot we could be doing that we're not," he said. "Think of what we're doing now with what we have and think of what we could be doing with some improvements. For example, simple things like getting the clocks in order and possibly getting computers in the classroom, giving the students an opportunity to have class not just in the



PRINCIPAL JACK KNAPP  
"School should be fun"

rooms, but to have the internet incorporated into the discussions."

Another issue that struck Mr. Knapp is that everybody here seems to be busy and always working on something. While some people might simply note the drive that U-Highers have, Mr. Knapp takes a different approach by saying that less is more.

"The big idea is that school should be fun and sometimes we might lose track of that here," he commented. "It's strange to me how everybody always has something to do here. I think we might be better served by taking the less is more route. Sometimes I think this school might sacrifice quality for quantity. For example I think we could do away with some of the busy work that is assigned for homework and maybe have more projects."

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Photos  
by  
Betsy  
Kalven

## Summer experiences

## Travelers learn from journeys



Photo courtesy of Mrs. Joan Epstein

"IT WAS STUNNING to see 30,000 other Democrats in the Staples Center," said Sophomore Nick Epstein, who with his family (including sister Julie, '98) attended the Democratic National Convention last month in Los Angeles. "My sister and I had a difficult time seeing all the politicians from the nosebleed section," Nick added. "Plus it was really uncomfortable due to the 90-degree-plus temperature inside the stadium."

By Shilpa Rupani  
Associate editor

In Villa Sin Miede, Puerto Rico, a town in the middle of the rainforest, with no running water, concrete houses, and one paved road, Junior Jessie Sklarsky built houses with 25 other teenagers with a program called Global Works this summer. She was among numerous U-Highers who traveled, gaining memorable experiences.

"I chose to do the trip because my sister did it a few years ago," Jessie said. "The whole trip made me appreciate everything I have. When I first got there, I was shocked; I thought I couldn't live there. There was no running water and there was so much poverty."

"We were in a village in the middle of a rainforest, most of the houses were made of concrete and there was only one paved road in the village. I got used to it but it made me value what I had. I realized how lucky I was. All of the people in the village had so little but they were so happy because they had each other. It was a great experience. I also got to do neat things with my group. We went scuba diving and caving."

With his family, Sophomore Nick Epstein attended the 2000 Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles. Nick's sister, Julie, '98, worked in the finance department of the Democratic National Committee in a summer internship.

"The convention was fun," Nick said. "It was interesting. I met several politicians. I met the entire cabinet except Madeline Albright. They were more personable than I thought. I also met

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## READ ALL ABOUT IT

### Big Mac gets big job

VETERAN COACH Larry McFarlane takes on the new position of Dean of Students and Faculty and begins figuring out just what it will involve. Page 2.

### Here comes Homecoming

STUDENT COUNCIL'S president and Cultural Union's president for the first time will work as a team, guiding the destinies of both facets of student government. A Spirit Week and the Homecoming Dance kick off the action. Page 3.

### A trusty guide for newcomers

YOU CAN COUNT on the Midway to set new U-Highers straight about the place. In a crooked sort of way, that is. Here's inside advice you simply won't find anywhere else. Page 6-7.

### Their excellent adventure

A SENIOR BOY and a girl graduate converse about their trip this summer to Africa. Get ready for some really interesting conversation. And a lot of laughs. Page 8.

### Searching for coaches

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR is here but the school as of last week was still dealing with the dilemma of unfilled sports team coaching positions. Why does finding coaches come down to the wire so often and what could be done to keep coaches once they're found? Page 11.



# 2 dean & discipline

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"I don't want to be seen just as someone who handles problems. I also want to be seen as someone students can come to if they have a problem."  
—Mr. Larry McFarlane, dean of students and faculty

## Mac tackles, defines new role as Dean

By Abigail Newman  
Associate editor

From Big Mac to Big Cheese, Mr. Larry McFarlane, dean of students and faculty, hopes the year will prove one big happy meal. Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz said she created the position because the school needed an administrator to focus on the everyday needs of both students and faculty members.

Coming to the Lab Schools as a phys ed teacher in 1971, Mr. McFarlane has also been Department Chairperson; Athletic Director; boys' soccer, tennis, swimming and basketball coach; and girls' swimming coach. His three children all attended the Lab Schools: Ian, '96; Megan '98; and Corey, who left after 7th grade in 1998.

"I kind of felt that maybe it was time for a change for me personally," Mr. McFarlane said about taking the new position, which will include overseeing discipline, attendance and the advisory program.

"There are some things that need to be tightened up. I think it's a fine school. We've got wonderful kids and a wonderful faculty. We need to make the school safe. If students have a problem, they need to feel that everybody is here in support of everybody else; teachers need to feel the same way."

Mr. McFarlane will play a major role in shaping his position.

"The job is now a whole conglomeration of things," Mr. McFarlane said. "My main job is to handle any discipline problems that may arise. I will also be handling attendance and students who cut classes. The jobs seem to go

better together so they have been combined to make the system more effective. I will be overseeing the assistant to the principal, Mr. Tom Minelli, and making sure everything goes smoothly in that office. Mr. Minelli will still be handling dances and student retreats.

"I will also be working with Mrs. Susan Shapiro overseeing the advisory program. Part of my charge is to help the committee that's working on a better senior year."

Mr. McFarlane believes that discipline must be consistent and prompt.

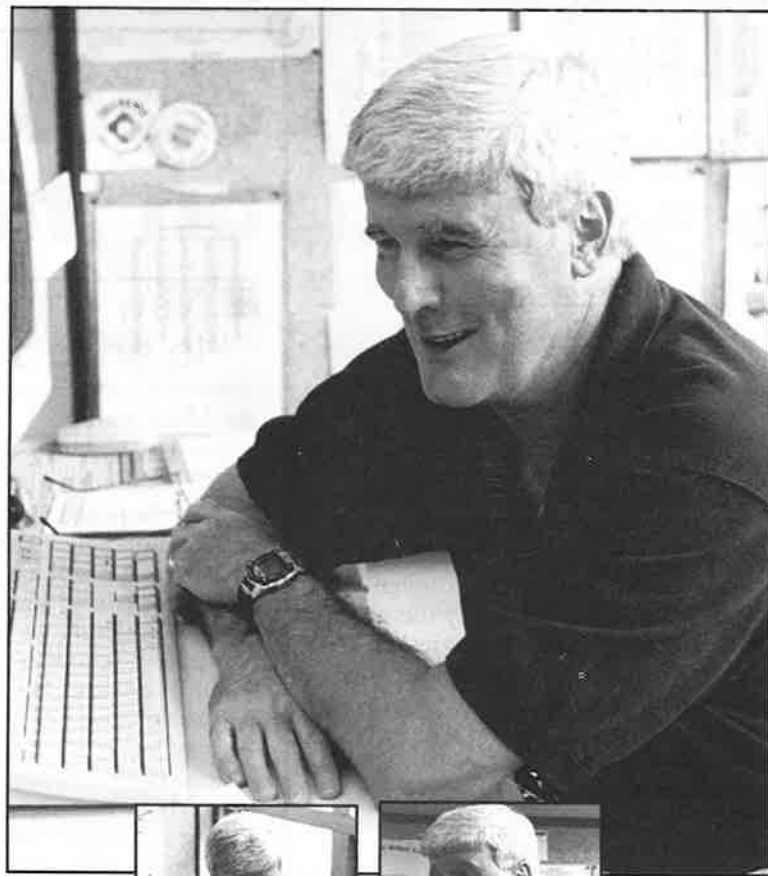
"I don't believe that wiping tables in the cafeteria is a deterrent for cutting classes," Mr. McFarlane said. "Hopefully I can be creative enough to think of something else. I'll do my best to ensure that everyone is treated the same. Whatever discipline is needed needs to be done quickly. The new handbook is the same as last year, and the Code of Conduct is the same. I'll be trying to enforce them as fairly and as quickly as possible."

For the school community to feel that discipline is being carried out fairly, Mr. McFarlane feels that everyone must be familiar with the handbook.

"Advisers have to do a better job of making sure the points in the handbook that are really important get to the faculty and students," Mr. McFarlane said. "The tougher issue is how you deal with problems."

Serving as an intermediary, Mr. McFarlane hopes to ease relations between the faculty and the principal.

"If the faculty have a problem, they can bring it to me," Mr. McFarlane explained. "If I can't deal with it, then I will take it to the principal."



Photos by Betsy Kalven

DEAN OF STUDENTS AND FACULTY LARRY MCFARLANE  
"Maybe it was time for a change for me"

"I serve as an ombudsman for the faculty in communicating faculty concerns to the principal. Also, I represent the High School in the principal's absence."

## A fresh start

Check out Joyce's Hallmark's new delicious assortment of bath products by H2O+. With Joyce's vast array of body washes, lotions and body sprays, you'll find it impossible to leave empty-handed.



SAVORING the heavenly assortment of fragrances at Joyce's Hallmark, Nick Hill is smitten with all the scents H2O+ has to offer.

Photo by Betsy Kalven

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## Discipline

(continued from page 1)

Math Teacher Rosa McCullagh, U-High faculty chairperson and a member of both discipline committees believes a Discipline Board could help discipline inconsistencies.

"I feel that if a Discipline Board is in place that is supported by the various constituencies, then the decisions that the Board recommends in specific cases can be supported," Ms. McCullagh said. "I hope that the Discipline Board will lead to fewer complaints of unfairness."

Under the Board plan, all 13 members would not participate in every discipline case. Four students and four faculty members would hear evidence from both the student involved and Mr. Larry McFarlane, dean of students and faculty. "I would bring evidence to the Board," Mr. McFarlane explained. "The student would have a staff member representing him or her. The Board then would hear both sides, meet and vote. A 6-2 vote would be necessary. The Board would make a recommendation the same day. Then the principal would make the final decision."

Though the Discipline Board was devised by the Review Committee, the eventual administration of the plan was passed on to the High School faculty, which had expressed concern about initially not being adequately involved and the need for final decisions to rest in the hands of the school's educators.

Over the summer the faculty convened a committee of six of its members, three administrators and four students to pin down the details.

"When the Lab Schools Board began specifying details, that was micromanagement and something the Board should not have been doing," said Physics Teacher David Derbes, member of both discipline committees. "The fear among the faculty, which I shared, was that the Board was trying to tell us how to do our job. This was not healthy."

## MAC FACTS

- Nov. 17, 1946—Mr. Donald (Larry) McFarlane born in Dumbarton, Scotland.
- 1949—Comes to Hyde Park from Scotland with his mother to join his father.
- 1955—Family moves from the South Side to suburban South Holland.
- 1960-64—Attends Thornridge High School in south suburban Dolton, swims all four years and participates in student government junior and senior years.
- 1964-69—Swims and is active in the interfraternity council at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb; graduates 1969.
- 1969-71—Teaches phys ed at the Maple School in Loves Park outside Rockford.
- 1971—Comes to the Lab Schools to teach physical education.
- 1971-2000—Coaches boys' swimming every year and boys' tennis some years; coaches frosh-soph boys' soccer until 1983.
- 1975-99—Assistant director and then director of summer day camp MacWillies.
- 1977-93—Serves as Athletic Director; 1977-92 and 1995-97 is Physical Education Department Chairperson.
- 1981—Coaches one undefeated game of boys' basketball.
- 1984-98—Coaches girls' swimming.
- Wins ISL Coach of the Year award several times for boys' tennis and once for boys' swimming.
- 1994-99—Serves as an adviser; was part of the original group of faculty members who developed the plan for advisories.
- 2000—Appointed U-High Dean of Students and Faculty.

## Discipline an issue at other schools, too

U-High is not the only school trying to improve its disciplinary procedures. Schools across the nation, among them prestigious New Trier Township High School in north suburban Winnetka, are examining their policies.

New Trier school board members want to implement an honor code that would encompass all students to accompany current athletic codes and activities codes for student leaders, according to a July 20 Chicago Tribune article.

But New Trier board members say they realize an honor code can't ensure ethical behavior simply because there is one, that parents and students must make ethical decisions in daily life.

One such issue, School Board member David Grossberg told the Tribune, is parents providing alcohol for their children.

"Besides Homecoming and Semiformal, C.U. is going to work to have two other theme dances, such as a caribbean-reggae dance and a disco ball. We are going to have to publicize a lot for these dances to ensure a good turnout."

-Senior Tiffany Northrop, Cultural Union president



# government goals 3

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## Gov't seeks power, pep

### Presidents plan cooperative effort

By Jordann Zachary

Associate editor

Determined to build student government's power in the school and community, Student Council President Michelle Krohn-Friedson and Cultural Union President Tiffany Northrop, seniors, plan to work cooperatively as a team.

Student Council is the student governing body and Cultural Union plans social and cultural projects, including dances and parties.

To build power for government, Michelle met this summer with Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz and Principal Jack Knapp.

"I want to shift gears and change the pace of Student Council so later student governments can follow in our footsteps and play more of a political role in school," said Michelle, junior class president last year.

"We are already an important part of the new Discipline Committee. Starting this year, there will be a board of students, some of whom will be Student Council members and faculty who will hear cases of students being threatened with suspension or expulsion and they will vote on whether or not the punishment should be implemented.

"I want Student Council to be more involved in controversial issues around school, but at the same time we have to pick our battles so we can make a



THROUGH THE NEW Kenwood Mall fence, presidents Michelle Krohn-Friedson, Student Council, and Tiffany Northrop, Cultural Union, envision a strong year for student government. contribution in a few big areas and really make a difference."

One of student government's first projects is to help freshmen adjust to high school with a big brother-big sister program pairing them with seniors.

Increasing school spirit also tops the presidents' list, starting with a Spirit Week prior to the Homecoming dance.

"One of my main goals this year is to have four successful dances," said Tiffany, who was sophomore class president.

## HOUSE PARTY

Decked out with maroon and white streamers and balloons, the Homecoming Dance will kick off Cultural Union's social calendar 8-11p.m, Saturday, Oct. 7 at International House, 1414 E. 59th Street.

"We are in the process of finding a D.J." Cultural Union President Tiffany Northrop said. "Once we know who the D.J. is then we can determine ticket prices. It will be in the range of \$7 to 10, depending on whom we choose. Tickets will be sold in the high school lobby starting Sept. 30 during lunch."

Nominations for Homecoming Kings and Queens will be taken as tickets are being sold. "Each class will nominate candidates for their king and queen. Voting will take place upon entering the dance. It's such a fun and important tradition and I am going to make sure it is run right."

## GETTING TO KNOW U

Climbing a makeshift mountain, your safety resting in the hands of a classmate below can prove a quick lesson in trust.

Exploring the outdoors while learning to cooperatively work with classmates, sophomores will go on Retreat Tuesday-Friday, Sept. 26-29 at Touch of Nature Center near Southern Illinois University in downstate Carbondale.

"This Retreat is based in the outdoors," said Mr. Tom Minelli, assistant to the principal. "Students will have a chance to kayak, rock climb and canoe. It is a very physical retreat and requires students to push each other to their limits while supporting them

at the same time."

Loud music and wild dancing will invite freshmen to unwind after electing class officers at Freshman Retreat Thursday-Friday, Sept. 28-29 in Williams Bay, Wisc. at a YWCA camp on Lake Geneva.

"At Freshman Retreat, there will be an evening dance and other activities so the new class has a chance to get to know each other better" Mr. Minelli explained. "There are about 30 new freshmen this year and this retreat is a good way to get better acquainted. Chaperons will include all the freshman advisers and a few Student Council members to help things run smoothly."

## Nothing gets in the way of a U.M. connossieur and his daily dosage of delicious subs!



Photo by Betsy Kalven

# University Market

1323 E. 57th St. ■ (773) 363-0070

Market opens 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Deli open 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Despite a fractured tibia (broken leg to you) suffered in a scrimmage (what a jock!), Junior Jules Federle still makes it down to 57th street on his new wheels to satisfy his voracious craving for a freshly-prepared sub. University Market offers a copious choice of different sandwiches in addition to all types of groceries—from soft drinks to potato chips—, all at affordable prices. And we're just a hop, skip and a jump from school! If you can hop, skip and jump, that is.



# 4 in the community

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"My experiences in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana this summer were totally different from any prior travel. Seeing a country in turmoil redefining itself like South Africa is doing was as strong and overpowering as the landscape and game life were."

-Ms. Eileen Epstein, director of external services



Photo by Betsy Kalven

AT A THREE-DAY Community Learning Retreat two weeks ago, Peer Leaders prepared for a new year with a new coordinator. Here Ruth Bistrow and Mike Lamb survey the new

handbook prepared by Coordinator Susan Sheldon, center. Sophomore faculty advisers joined in the program the final day.

## Community Learning head hopes it's sweet

By Russell Kohn  
Associate editor

With a candy jar on her desk, the new Community Learning Coordinator, Ms. Susan Sheldon, is ready to begin the school year with her door wide open. After receiving her bachelor's degree in finance with a minor in German from Indiana University, Ms. Sheldon worked as a banker for three years here in Chicago. She then returned to school to earn her Masters from Loyola University. After teaching for four

years in the Chicago Public Schools, Ms. Sheldon decided to move on.

"I decided to quit while I was ahead," she explained. "I didn't want to get burned out, so at the end of school last year I resigned from my job and began looking for something else. A friend told me about this opening at U-High and I ended up taking it."

To prepare Community Learning Peer Leaders for the upcoming year, Ms. Sheldon led a Retreat August 29-31 at school. Activities during the all-day programs included conflict resolution seminars and meetings between the Peer Leaders and advisers to the sophomores who will be entering community service.

With only a taste of the year ahead of her, survival is Ms. Sheldon's first goal.

"After I'm confident that I'll live through the year, I want to try to make myself very accessible to the students," she said. "As a public school teacher, with a class of 30 kids, it's tough to get to know any of them well. At U-High I hope to be able to spend more time getting to know people. I have been warned, though, that if I'm not careful I'll spend a fortune on candy."

### KICKING OFF

At a Community Learning Kickoff Thursday, September 21 in Judd Hall junior and senior Peer Leaders will hand out information packets about the sites participating in this year's Community Learning Program to sophomores. The packets detail sites, including quotes from U-Highers who have worked at them in previous years. Peer Leaders additionally will share their experiences as sophomores when they served as sites, including life-affecting experiences and friendships they have made.

### SITES IN SIGHT

Following the Community Learning Kickoff, a Site Fair Friday, September 22 in the cafeteria will offer more information about community service sites to sophomores. Site sponsors will be present to provide information on their agencies and services and answer questions.

After the Site Fair, students will have two weeks, until after Sophomore retreat, to decide on which site they will work at for their Community Learning Field Work.

## Black history project will benefit community

A major community project has occupied major time for African American History Teacher Charles Branham this summer. The Historymakers, a project funded by grants, will result in an extensive web site and a two-hour video and CD-ROM on the history of black Illinois legislators.

Employing interviews and research, the Historymakers will document African American history and particularly the civil rights movement, Mr. Branham explained. He has interviewed legislators and politicians for the project, been interviewed himself as a black historian, and researched the civil rights movement.

"This will provide for young people born before the civil rights struggle an opportunity to hear the voices and learn from the personal stories of people involved in what I consider the greatest moral struggle of the second half of the 20th century," Mr. Branham said.

A benefit concert in November starring Harry Belafonte and Danny Glover also will benefit the project.

## Brief-ly: U. of C. events beckon U-Highers

■ **POW-WOW!**—Music and dance performances, craftmaking workshops, storytelling programs and drumming competitions will highlight an American Indian Pow Wow, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23 and Sunday, Sept. 24 on the Midway.

The panoramic celebration of Native American culture is sponsored by the University of Chicago and Chicago Park District in association with Gathering of Nations, a New Mexico organization which annually produces the biggest Pow Wow in the United States. Admission is free.

Authentic American Indian food will be available at the Pow Wow, which follows two smaller annual projects organized by Prof. Anne Terry Straus with students in her anthropology course on Pow Wows. Prof. Straus is a former U-High parent.

"This is a great opportunity to meet and learn about contemporary Indian people," Prof. Straus said. "We expect 300 to 400 dancers and 50 vendors, probably about six drum groups and Miss Indian World will be there as will Indian rock star types. By all means, come to it and bring your friends."

Information is available at (773) 834-4509.

■ **HISTORIC CONFERENCE**—Discussion panels, performances, films and an exhibit on gay life in Chicago will be featured at "The Future of the Gay Past," a conference this Thursday through Saturday at the University. More than 200 historians are expected to attend.

The conference is being organized by Prof. George Chauncey, a prominent author and speaker in the field of gay issues and history.

The exhibition opens Thursday at Regenstein Library and will remain on display through the fall quarter. Information is available at (773) 834-4509.

■ **THANKS, A LOT**—A long-awaited parking facility to ease the pain of students, faculty members and neighborhood residents who daily search for a spot for their vehicles will be opened this winter by the University. Fifth Ward Alderman Leslie

Hairston, '79 U-High graduate, urged the University to construct the lot on available property at 60th Street and Stony Island Ave. to compensate for street parking spaces being lost to bus stops for the CTA, which is taking over daytime campus bus routes. Parking will be free in the 100-space lot.

■ **ALL THE NEWS THAT'S UNFIT**—Feeling disparaged and that he was portrayed in an evil manner in a New York Times story July 6, political activist Billy "Upski" Wimsatt told the Midway he will no longer allow reporters to interview him.

A Hyde Park native, Mr. Wimsatt, '90 U-High graduate and Midway editor-in-chief, now works for a nonprofit organization in North Carolina promoting networking for social and personal benefit. He said he was so stunned by the article that he wrote a 15-page reply to the author, N.R. Kliensfeld.

It can be viewed on Mr. Wimsatt's web site, [www.nomoreprisons.net](http://www.nomoreprisons.net). The site is named after Mr. Wimsatt's latest book on urban life and associated social movements. Best known for his book "Bomb The Suburbs," which has sold more than 25,000 copies, Mr. Wimsatt has written extensively on graffiti as a political and artistic movement, the hip hop culture, the legal system, the effect of homogenous cultures in the suburbs and philanthropy as an art form.

The New York Times article, 12th in a series of 16 on "How Race is Lived in America," depicted Mr. Wimsatt as "A white man with unusual credibility among blacks deeply protective of their culture."

"I read the article in shock," Mr. Wimsatt wrote in his reply. "How could this person who I invited into my life, who spent months on and off, following me around, who I brought home to my parents, who I allowed complete access to my life, who I jokingly to as 'my new best friend' because we spent so much time together and with whom I shared as many of my most personal thoughts and experiences on race: How could he write an article like this?"

## Vacation tales

(continued from page 1)

Lou Weisbach, who is head of the Jefferson Trust, which is a group of people who donate at least \$250,000 to the Democratic Party. I got to go to clubs, parties, concerts and dinners that I normally would not have been able to go to.

"My favorite part was the Inaugural Concert. I saw Barbra Streisand, Boyz II Men, Babyface and Enrique Iglesias perform. I had so much fun."

Among other students and faculty summer experiences:

Sophomore **Ruth Grossman** studied dance at Walnut Hill Academy for the Arts in Natick Massachusetts for five weeks; Junior **Meagan Lombaer** participated in many aquatic events in the Virgin Islands through a program called Action Quest for three weeks; Sophomore **Denise Lopez-Domowicz** visited family and friends in Cordoba, Argentina for one and a half months; Sophomore **Jeanette Rudder** participated in a Young Scientists program at the Illinois Institute of Technology for four weeks; Senior **Katie Spielberger** traveled to Paderborn, Germany on her third consecutive exchange for four weeks; Junior **Sarah Arkin** studied drama at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh for six weeks; Sophomore **Olivia John** visited Greece and Turkey on a weeklong cruise with classmate Shubra Ohri; Sophomore **Shubra Ohri** also took a train tour around the South of Spain for a week; Photography Teacher **Liese Ricketts** visited family and photographed life and locales in Lima and Sacred Valley of the Incas in Peru; and **Ms. Eileen Epstein**, director of external affairs, visited Africa two weeks and enjoyed going on safari, as did some U-Highers (see "First Person column page 9).

## New principal's mission

(continued from page 1)

"The potential for quality is so huge here, with a deep and talented faculty and students who can contribute so much. The genius of the school is the teaching that goes on in the classroom. Expanding the realm of learning outside of the classroom would help too. In my previous experiences at schools like Lab, the students can't say enough about the role of sports. Athletics is directly tied to learning, because it is the most public classroom. We should try to find more ways to get the school involved in the sports teams."

With discipline a heated issue for the school community, Mr. Knapp, along with new Dean of Students and Faculty Larry McFarlane, hopes to significantly improve the situation with a focus on student participation.

"I'm confident that Mr. McFarlane has it under control," Mr. Knapp assured. "The important thing I want to do is increase the role of the students in deciding discipline issues, because it directly affects them. The discussions we've had with the students on the Discipline Committee have been really successful. By coming together and seeing where each side is coming from, we can make so much more progress than if we stay distant."

With senior year culminating almost a lifetime of schooling at the Lab Schools for many seniors, Mr. Knapp believes it should be celebrated.

"From what I've heard about senior year, nobody likes it, just like assemblies," he said candidly. "So, just like assemblies, we're trying to help fix it. The school does a terrific job of educating kids in the classroom, but we should think about giving kids more opportunities to be responsible for themselves."

"Here we've got counselors and advisers and teachers all there, but in college, kids will be on their own. We need to find some way for students to, in a controlled environment, be left on their own. For example, seniors should have more long term projects where they need to organize their time wisely. We may need to look at upgrading May Projects. There's gotta be a good idea out there, we just have to find it."

There he is, Mr. Jack Knapp. A man on a mission? Yes. A man with a plan? Yes, many in fact. A man who's seen it all? Maybe, but then he's only just begun. (Also see editorial page 8.)



"Even though a first-day issue as large as this one has never been done before, there was so much news we had to do it. With just part of our staff in town, a lot of our sources hard to locate and so much work it was a challenge."

-Senior Mike Lamb, Midway editor-in-chief



# new faces & features 5

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ MONDAY, SEPT. 11, 2000



**RETURNING TO SCHOOL** three weeks before school started, these Midway editors put together this first-day issue, from left: Rachel Greene, Abigail Newman, Elizabeth Stigler, Betsy Kalven, Ameer Saleh (seated at the computer constructing a page), Jordann Zachary, Shilpa Rupani and Debbie Traub. Editor-in-Chief Mike Lamb isn't in the photo because he's behind the camera.

## Midway to add pages on Arts, City Life

With the largest first-day issue in the Midway's history, this year's staff kicks off a year offering new features and columns, including an Arts page and City Life page some issues.

"The pages will highlight talented U-Highers and neighborhoods and hangouts in the Chicago area," said Editor-in-Chief Mike Lamb.

Last year's Midway won top honors from the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), receiving the highest rating, All American. With the rating came Marks of Distinction for creative work in all five areas covered by the judging scorebook. They are Coverage and Content; Writing and Editing; Photography, Art and Graphics; Layout and Design; and Leadership.

"A truly outstanding publication!" the judge concluded. "Reporting is thorough, writing is strong, features are focused and interesting, photos are excellent, design is crisp and opinion content is relevant. Advertising: I can't say enough about your excellent work in this area. By far, the best ad designs I've seen in any student publication and most professional ones."

Other managers, editors and columnists this year are as follows:

**Photography editor:** Betsy Kalven; **sports photo coordinator:** Satya Bhabha; **business and advertising manager:** Shilpa Rupani.

**Associate editors, by page:** 1, news: Abigail Newman; 2, news: Priya Sridhar; 3, news: Nick Hill; **features:** Jordann Zachary; **City Life,** Zach Frey; **In-Depth Newsfeature:** Russell Kohn; **Commentary:** Natalie Hoy; **Sports:** Jules Federle, Elizabeth Stigler and Kian Dowlatshahi; **Photofeatures and news:** Debbie Traub.

**Political editor:** Russell Kohn; **community editor:** Rachel Greene.

**Columnists:** *Opinion,* Ameer Saleh; *Current Events:* J.A. Redfield; *Films:* Priya Sridhar; *Theater:* Abigail Newman; *Music:* Nick Hill and Shilpa Rupani; *Television:* Jordann Zachary; *Dining:* Nick Epstein; *Fashion:* Natalie Hoy; *Sports:* Elizabeth Stigler alternating with Kian Dowlatshahi. "Your Say in the Midway" student opinion feature: Ameer Saleh.

## Smile! Photo days coming

Why is everybody smiling? That well could be the question as U-Highers are photographed for the 2001 yearbook next month.

Seniors will be photographed Tuesday, Oct. 3; Wednesday, Oct. 4; and Friday, Oct. 6 in the courtyard outside Blaine Hall. Juniors, sophomores and freshmen will be photographed Wednesday, Oct. 11 in Gerstley Center. Information will be mailed home to seniors. Underclassmen will receive information in advisories. Schedules will be posted on class boards.

The 2000 U-Highlights is expected to arrive next month. The yearbook is still in production at the printer's plant in Dallas.

U-Highers who want to join the 2001 yearbook staff can leave a note for Editor-in-Chief Shilpa Gulati in the Journalism mailbox in U-High 107. Staff members must be able to attend workshops which meet 10 a.m.-6 p.m. two Saturdays a month.

Other managers and editors for the 2001 U-Highlights are as follows:

**Executive editors:** Apoorva Chawla, Henry Goudge, Adrienne Clark and Adrienne Umeh; **photography editor:** Claire Stewart; **sports photo coordinator:** Satya Bhabha; **business and ad managers:** Joe Cho and Smitha Gandra; **design editor and Pagemaker director:** Pankaj Chhabra.

**Section editors:** *School Life:* Henry Goudge and Apoorva Chawla; *Learning:* Nikita Barai; *Organizations:* Susan Yi and Carolyn Blair; *Sports:* Adrienne Clark, Megan Dawson and Adrienne Umeh; *People:* Neha Shahi; *Community:* Komal Sawlani; *Theme and Divider Spreads:* Elizabeth Jenenga.

## Magazine ready to debut

Thirty-nine pieces of art, 20 pieces of literature and nine photographs will be offered in the new edition of Renaissance, the school's art and literary magazine ready for distribution this week or next. An accompanying compact disc will offer 15 musical and spoken word performances by U-Highers.

"I know I say each issue of the magazine is great every year," said Fine Arts Teacher Joan Koblick, Renaissance adviser with Foreign Language Teacher Steve Farver. "But this is an especially exciting edition."

The 64-page issue includes a celebration of the Millennium with student quotes accompanying art spreads.

## Newcomers total 39

Thirty-nine newcomers are among the 460 U-Highers completing the first day of school today.

Females and males are almost equal in number this year, with 231 girls slightly outnumbering 229 boys. But three of the four grade levels have more boys than girls. It's the freshman class that brings the total numbers almost even.

There are 109 seniors, with 57 boys and 52 girls; 117 juniors, with 61 boys and 56 girls; 114 sophomores, with 58 boys and 56 girls; and 120 freshmen, with 67 girls and 53 boys.

Newcomers include three seniors, two juniors, five sophomores and 29 freshmen (the rest are moving up from the Middle

School). Many have familiar last names as they are brothers or sisters of present and former U-Highers (see "Your Say in the Midway" on page 8). The newcomers are as follows:

**SENIORS**-Philip Knapp, Max Schleusener and David Yarylai.

**JUNIORS**-Sudhir Gaud and Bernie Bergmann.

**SOPHOMORES**-Joan Friedrich, Andrea John, Abigail Knapp, Nuala McCullagh, Joey Spielberger.

**FRESHMEN**-Amy Aschliman, Joe Babcock, Chirag Barai, Evan Bernick, Laurel Brehm, Robin Brehm, Catherine Cantwell, Tomell Ceasar, Eric Christian-son, Erna Davydova, Stephen Dorsey, Karolis Grigas, Maher Kheirbeck, Kate Koch, Maya Kordylewska, Alex Lawson, Amit Mittal, Naveen Naveen, Harry Rosenberg, Hanna Schlessinger, Sagar Shah, Neil Sharma, Dan Small, Jason Smikle, Liz Stanish, Tom Vasilj, Julia Van Der Hout, Rob Wile, Ashley Wright,



**HERE'S THE LINEUP!** New faculty members debuting today include, from left, Mr. John Clifford, math; Mr. Mark Dreesen, science; Ms. Karen Gusick, guidance; Ms. Meghan Janda, phys ed; Mr. Dan McDonald, science; Mr. Pete Miller, phys ed; Ms. Trisha Muro, science; Ms. Susan Sheldon, Community Learning; and Mr. Jason Smith, math.

## New faculty members get welcome, mentors

All 10 new faculty members are getting the royal treatment today, but one already has worn a crown. He's a former Mr. America.

The new teachers have received a welcoming basket from the school, the idea of Principal Jack Knapp. The basket includes a copy of Chicago Magazine and Windy City treats including Frango Mints from Marshall Field's.

Each newcomer also has been given a faculty mentor to ease their beginning of school experiences.

The new faculty members and their subjects include the following:

**Mr. John Clifford, math**-Mr. Clifford taught three years at Josephinum High School on the West Side, where he was Math Department Head. He also served as varsity girls' basketball coach at Ridgewood High School.

**Mr. Mark Dreesen, science**-From Cairo, Egypt, to U-High comes Mr. Dreesen after teaching high school science at the Cairo American School 15 years.

**Ms. Karen Gusick, guidance and counseling**-U-Highers know Ms. Gusick as the receptionist at the lobby desk in Blaine Hall and then the Lab Schools office the past two years. What they probably don't know is that she is an educational therapist specializing in learning challenges and social skills. She will serve as High School learning consultant.

**Ms. Meghan Janda, phys ed**-Completing her Bachelor of Science and Physical Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago last year Ms. Janda student taught at Niles North High School in Skokie and a Chicago grade school.

**Mr. Daniel McDonald, science**-A Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Chicago, Mr. McDonald, Mr. McDonald served 11 years as a research scientist at Argonne National Laboratory. But science is only one

of his talents. An accomplished musician, he has played viola and violin with the University Symphony and the DuPage Symphony. He has also taught with the Hyde Park Youth Symphony Orchestra.

**Mr. Pete Miller, phys ed**-Winner of the 1990 Mr. America Championship for bodybuilding, Mr. Miller subsequently toured five years presenting seminars on weight training, nutrition and health. A graduate of Evanston Township High School, he has taught phys ed in grade schools coached pee-wee hockey. Mr. Miller received his Master of Science in Phys Ed last month from Chicago State University, graduating summa cum laude with a 4.0 grade average on a 4.0 scale.

**Ms. Trisha Muro, science**-With a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University, Ms. Muro last year taught science at the Park School of Baltimore and before that at Potapuco High School in the Baltimore County Public School district. From 1995 to 1999 she worked in the Hubble Space Telescope program.

**Ms. Susan Sheldon, Community Learning coordinator**-Ms. Sheldon taught four years in the Chicago public schools, with extensive experience with diverse school populations. She also brings experience in the business sector, having served as a Community Banking Representative at the Northern Trust.

**Mr. Jason Smith, math**-Mr. Smith will take Ms. Jane Canright's place when she leaves the school (see "Midway Mailbox" page 8). He taught in a middle school in west suburban Naperville last year and before that at Bernard Zell Day School in Chicago. He also taught in a summer computer program at Niles North High School in Skokie several years ago.

**Ms. Frances Spaltro, Latin**-With an M.A. in Classics from San Francisco State University, Ms. Spaltro has privately tutored. She also has taught in the Academic Skills Department at San Diego State University. Ms. Spaltro also has experience in the business sector, serving several years as a mortgage loan servicing specialist at the Great American National Bank.

## Improvements aid safety



Mr. Wilson

Display case safety glass, a handicapped door video system, improved cafeteria fire extinguisher coverage and new basement doors top summer safety improvements, according to Mr. Tony Wilson, director of facilities and safety.

"We installed an intercom and video system to handicapped doors so if

someone wants to come in all they have to do is push a button and a safety coordinator can see who it is and let them in," Mr. Wilson said. "We also installed new doors in the basement. The doors have magnets that will keep them open but if there is a fire, they automatically close. We also put another fire extinguisher in the cafeteria and put in safety glass for the display cases."

More improvements are coming.





## THE GRADUATE

"The most important thing to remember is never, I mean NEVER, show a video of yourself, half-naked and cursing, in front of the whole school and all the teachers."

—GEORGE WIED  
2000 Class President



## THE SENIOR

"Make sure to fill your schedule for the first three years of high school. That way you'll have a lot of free periods senior year. I'm taking four classes and I don't have to get up until 10:30 on Fridays. That's the way it should be."

—DAVID FISHER



## THE JUNIOR

"Do a bunch of extracurriculars. They're a lot of fun, but never let them give you too much trouble. Remember, they're EXTRAcurriculars, not just curriculars."

—JESSIE SKLARSKY



## THE SOPHOMORE

"Freshman year, the best thing to remember is that if you're doing theater and you're in the basement, you have to be careful. I've heard of disappearances and even penguin sightings."

—CULLAN CALVERT

# A NEWCOMER'S GUIDE

## Labbie Legends... and Living Them

To help newcomers, both teachers and students and those who have just forgotten the rules over a summer's worth of vegetation, we have prepared a Newcomer's Travel Guide to U-High.

We begin by noting that U-High is like an African Safari. With the right guide U-High can be safe and fun, however, school life can easily turn into a horror worthy of a Friday Night Cinemax B movie.

First, always remember to carry a trusty calculator, preferably the T.I. series capable of storing both games and hiding theorem's for a math test. This tool can easily transform the most boring classes into 45 minutes of fun, engaging in the mind boggling puzzles of Tetris.

But be careful. Teachers will try to strip you of this tool; best advice is to check your Student Handbook to learn how to get your calculator back if taken, although understanding the handbook can be harder than Ancient Egyptian Algebra.

Secondly, another tool that will serve you well is the coveted elevator pass. Since this privilege is only available to teachers, injured students and seniors with the right know-how, you will have to pamper these certain people.

Beware the elevator warning sign that says "Maximum Capacity 1,000 pounds" is not a wall decoration. Obey this rule and you are in good hands, break this rule and well... you'll end up stuck in the elevator during Valentine's Day, with the entire school watching Tony Wilson and staff trying to get you out.

Sound familiar to anybody?

## Heaven, Hell: Hyde Park

Whenever I meet someone who lives in Chicago, they inevitably ask where in Chicago I live. "On the South Side," I reply shamelessly.

They hesitate, and then manage to force out an "Oh."

"I live in Hyde Park," I say, trying to clear the confusion. "Near the University of Chicago."

With that reassurance, conversation continues normally. The confusion is rooted in the fact that the world considers the South Side of Chicago to be very dangerous. You might as well say that you come from Mars.

Though certain parts of the South Side may be trouble spots, all U-Highers know that our corner of Hyde Park is fine, as long as you aren't looking for trouble. With the University so close by, Hyde Park enjoys double police patrols. Suspiciously taxi-like University Police cars are a common site, in addition to the standard Chicago Police.

Hyde Park also provides plenty of places for U-Highers to hang out. With numerous parks and restaurants, U-Highers can always find good places to sit around with friends. You have to be aware, though, that U. of C. students are often jealous that U-Highers have lives, while U. of C. students don't.

When talking to U-Highers who live in Hyde Park, you must remember that Hyde Park is the center of Chicago. No neighborhood in Chicago is more important than Hyde Park. People have been known to disappear after making snide comments about our beloved neighborhood. An even more dangerous breed of U-Highers are those who are Hyde Parkers but still insist that Hyde Park is a dump.

Be careful around these people, because any association with them may cause you trouble. This should not be a problem, though, because anyone who takes just a short walk around the neighborhood can tell that the only place cleaner than Hyde Park is a Manhattan alley.

Third, know that at all times you are being watched. U-High is filled with secret security cameras strategically placed throughout the school. You cannot see these eyes in the sky but be aware they are watching you. They may even watching you in the cafeteria, where Joanna Chen and her dozens of trusty cafeteria staff members slave away making delicious food for affordable prices.

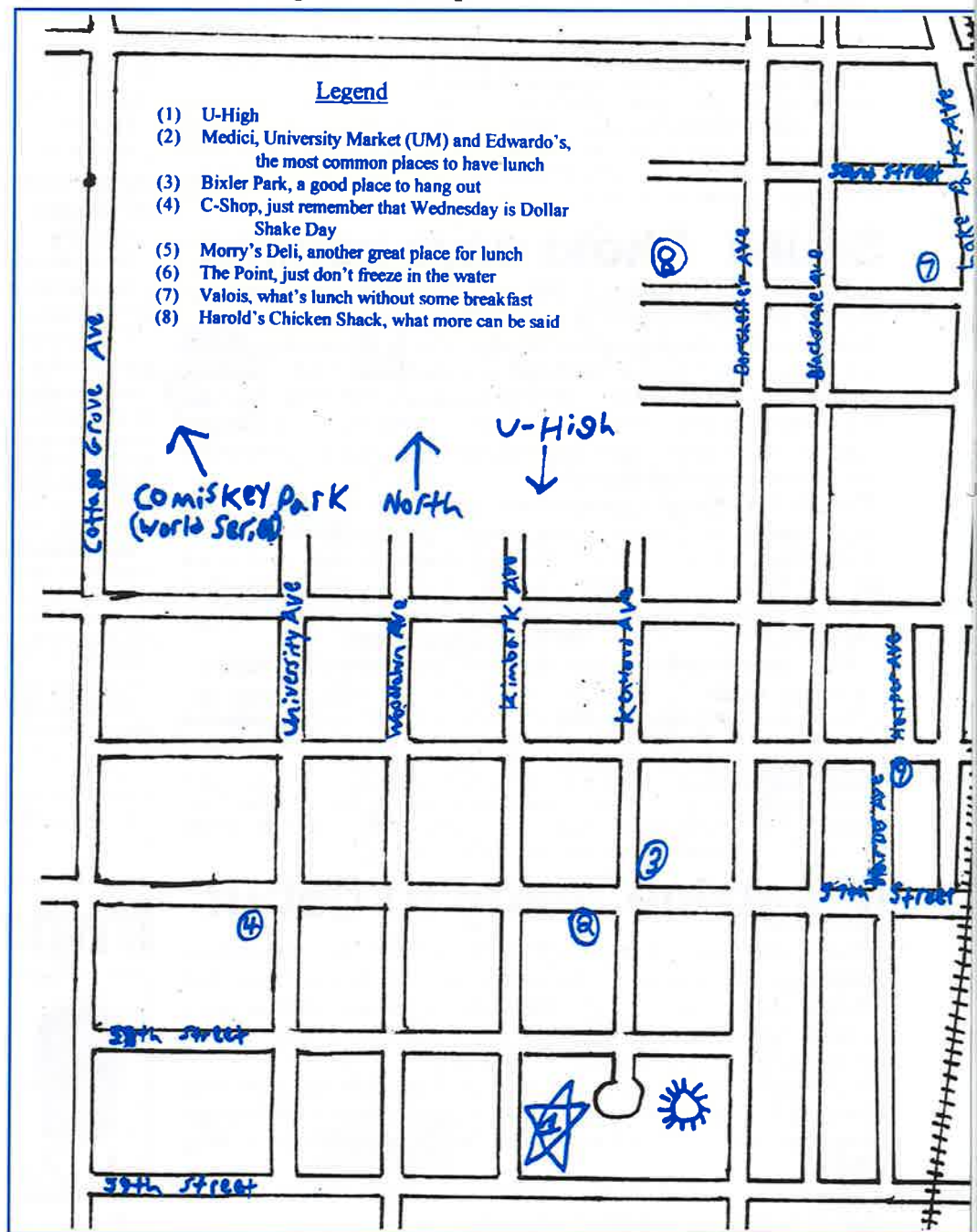
It is unknown to many U-Highers, but these workers live here at U-High. Both cafeteria restrooms are linked to secret underground tunnels leading to a magical underworld similar to that of Oz. Next time you are at lunch, or having a snack, ask yourself one question... why do the cafeteria workers so often travel to the restroom? Think about it.

Fourth, the ability to identify illusions will help you during your U-High career. For example, cut slips. At first one might be panicked or scared by these blue notes, thinking only of punishment to come, however, it is important to know that they are just illusions. Soon you'll be able to easily rip up piles of them with the realization they mean nothing. Use them for stationery or paper planes.

After all they're just illusions.

Finally, always keep hold of your property, possessions often vanish without a trace. Calculators, C.D. and Minidisc players, gym clothes, meal tickets and complete lunches all have there way of being, shall we say, misplaced.

Keep an eye out for U-Highers with sticky fingers. U-High has a strict policy on stealing. And if there is one thing this school is big on, it's discipline.







"Get your driver's license early so you can get to all the good lunch spots."  
—Senior Sola Oni

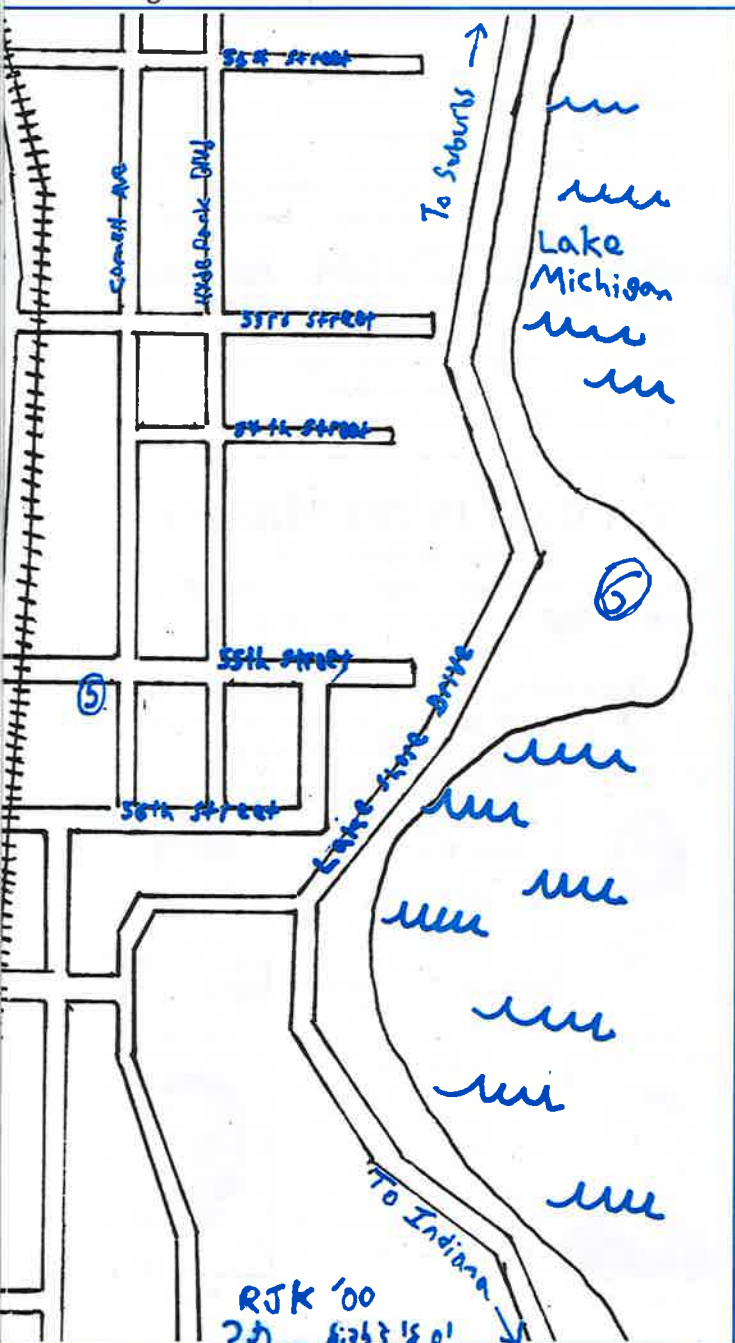
# DE TO U-HIGH

## MAROON MYTHS

**1** As many longtime U-Highers know, we are constantly monitored by security cameras placed strategically throughout the school. Everyone has a different explanation for their purpose: Is it to gather data for a scientific study, justifying the title "Laboratory Schools"? Or is it all a part of a nationwide government conspiracy to make sure high school students conform to some norm? Or are these cameras there truly to keep the school safe?

**2** While injuring yourself to obtain an elevator pass may not prove worth the trouble, elevator passes often come in handy. Very few teachers will accept as an excuse for tardiness an explanation that you were forced to climb two or even three flights of stairs from your previous class. On the other hand, plenty of teachers will accept as an excuse that you were stuck in the elevator.

**3** Always remember The 10-Minute Rule. If a teacher doesn't show up within 10 minutes after the beginning of a class period, according to school folklore, you are allowed to leave without earning a cut. While this principle seems straightforward, it is seldom exercised because few U-Highers actually have the courage to leave.



## Lunch Time Lunacy

Ah, Lunch. The most taxing 45 minutes of the day. Every weekday, except for double-lunch-period Thursdays, there lies the everlasting challenge: Find a reasonably-priced, reasonably-located place with good food and make it back on time to 7th period without stumbling into class with leftovers.

Although U-Highers are lucky, having an abundance of fast food restaurants in Hyde Park to choose from, students are always stuck with the problem of whether or not they can get to their destination in time by being a mere pedestrian.

Of course, the obvious way of avoiding eating in the cafeteria is to make the grueling walk down to 57th street and getting something from Medici, University Market or even Edwardo's.

While these places are in the perfect location, only two blocks from school, U-Highers get bored of eating the same types of food everyday for countless weeks. Unfortunately only two coups are ingenious enough to solve this dilemma: Either stay at school and eat in the caf or find another place that isn't too far away and that's good.

For U-Highers who enjoy a nice breakfast for lunch, the best place without a doubt is the infamous Valois Cafeteria on 53rd. Not only is Valois affordable, but it also serves breakfast until 4:30 p.m.

Of course, you can walk all the way to 55th or 53rd streets, but if you're lazy you'll just find a car to take or get a ride from a gracious friend with a car. While 55th street offers mainly Thai cuisine as well as Morry's Deli, which offers decent sandwiches, 53rd is really where students can get good food for cheap.

From deep fried chicken wings with hot sauce and fries, to a big gyros dripping with yogurt sauce, you can always find what you want on 53rd street.

Harold's Chicken Shack offers great fried chicken at an affordable price. Just down the block from Harold's is McDonald's and Subway. Just a bit further down the street is Hyde Park Gyros, where you can always get great gyros sandwiches.

Bold U-Highers can take Stony Island southbound to places such as Pete's, a nicely-decorated hole in the wall with a huge menu boasting wings, pizza, hamburgers and even steaks.

Or they can head downtown or to the North Side, which offer a wide variety of restaurants if you have the time and you're willing to pay the price.

Overall, U-Highers are offered a melange of foods, however, obtaining it depends how good you are at getting food, eating it and not being late to 7th period.

And, of course, there's always the caf.

## The production team

for this spread was led by Russell Kohn. Stories by Nick Hill and Ameer Saleh. Photos by Betsy Kalven. Art by Russell Kohn.

## HYDE PARK HOT SPOTS



**ASSIGNMENT:** Select three Hyde Park spots to photograph and describe for U-High newcomers. Assignee: Midway Photography Editor Betsy Kalven.

First, naturally, comes the Medici, one of several favorite U-High restaurants and hangouts along or near 57th street.

"Hey, it's the Med," Betsy explained. "Everyone goes there. It's all about convenience. You can go over there and grab a burger or a cup of coffee during your free periods or after school. It's a good meeting place where you can grab a bite to eat and discuss what's up for the night."

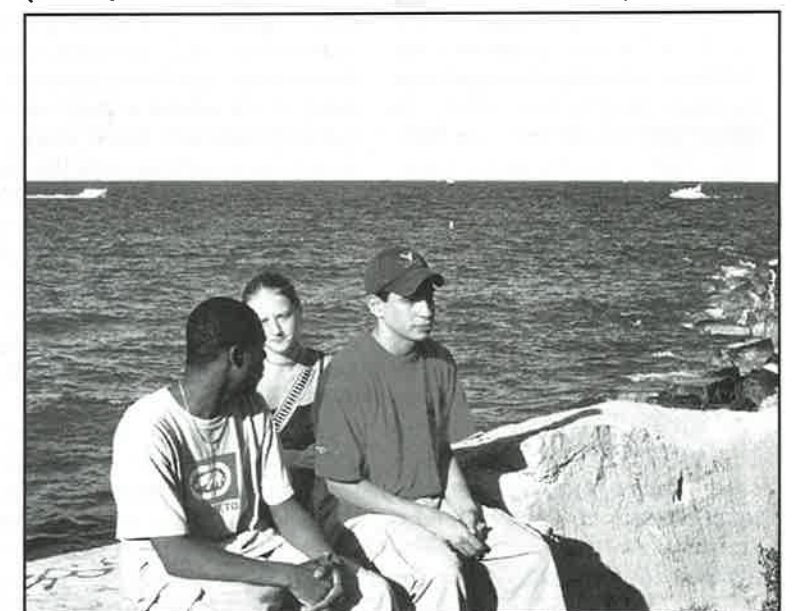
Also popular and right next door is Edwardo's restaurant and University Market, whose name only tells part of the story. You need to drop by to see what we mean.

(In the photo, from left: Katie Shapiro, Michelle Krohn-Friedson, Ruth Bistrow, Sim Khalidi, Amy Gorun, Ayinde Bennett and Jamie Jo Taylor.)



**ACROSS THE STREET** on 57th awaits Bixler Playlot, and once again the name only tells part of the story. "Bixler is unique," Betsy explains, "because it appeals to a wide range of U-Highers from freshmen to seniors. It's right next to U.M., Medici and Edwardo's so it's got everything you need. It acts as a hub for late-night activities and you can just chill there until everybody arrives." The school's adults are not as thrilled as its students about Bixler. There's been some discussion about how to effectively monitor what goes on there. Play on while you can.

(In the photo: Lexi Gewertz and Jordann Zachary.)

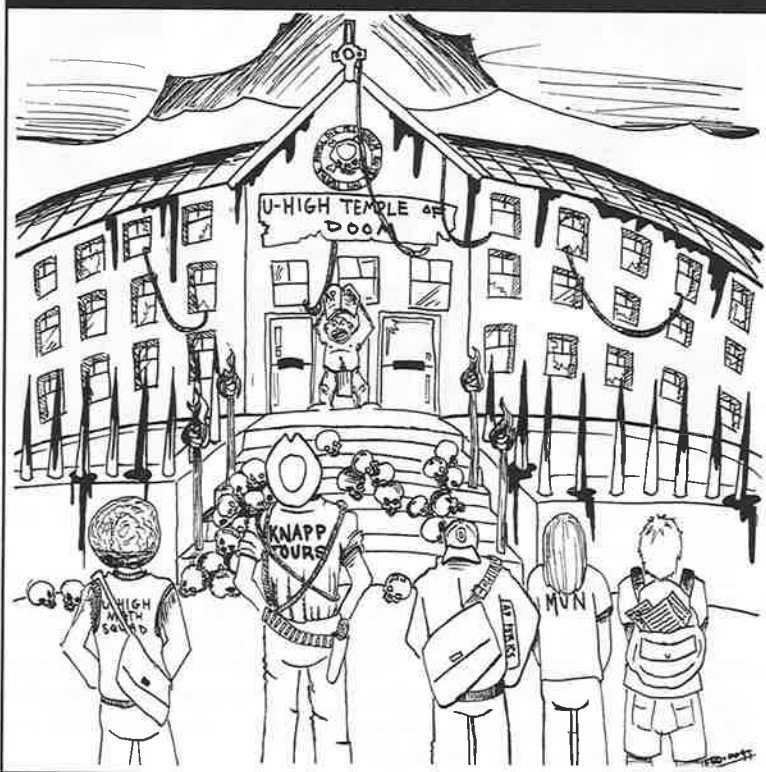


**FINALLY**, we get the Point (officially, Promontory Point, so named because it's a piece of shore jutting out into Lake Michigan; the Promontory part we can't explain). "The Point is great," Betsy says, "because it's away from school. You don't feel like you're still connected to school, so in that sense it's relaxing. At the beginning of school and towards the end, it's a nice place to cool off with a dip in the Lake or work on your tan. In the cooler months, it's still an escape because you can take a jog or take a bike ride."

(In the photo: Ayinde Bennett, Ruth Bistrow and Ameer Saleh.)



## AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT



Art by Jules Federle

## Grabbing U-High's golden opportunity

**W**e U-Highers have always been known to take advantage of every possible opportunity to get ahead whether it be with school-work or life in general.

Well, here's our chance—our golden opportunity to show what we can really do. To those who feel like the school has been trying to put obstacles in our path rather than helping us along, here's your chance.

We've got a principal in Mr. Jack Knapp who is trying to work with us and to make the students' voice a power in the school. While he believes that U-High is a great school, he thinks it could be much better and is quick to point out the weaknesses.

To those of you who think it's all talk, look at the new clocks tomorrow and realize that maybe they'll all be telling the same time for once. This was just one of his ideas, but it

wasn't just talk.

Been to a sporting event lately? He has. In just the short time Mr. Knapp has been here he's showed those of us watching that he won't just say he'll be there, he'll show up. To those of you who were crammed into the Guidance Counselors' office for schedule changes three weeks ago, Mr. Knapp noticed and don't expect to be jostling for position next year.

As we enter this year, the school has undergone a major facelift from new Dean Larry McFarlane, to the new Kovler Gym. Our teachers seem to have a sense of optimism not present the past few years and the students who have been able to talk to Mr. Knapp are even excited about working with him.

So it's up to us U-High. All the pieces are in place and now we have the chance to take advantage of the opportunity. Let's not let it pass us by.

## Here we go again

Wow! A new principal, a new dean and a new gym—but the Midway remains, changed only by each year's new staff. In some way or another the Midway has always been here, sometimes the only constant in a whirlwind of changes.

The Midway remains a community-based paper published by students, encouraging any and all readers to participate, whether it be writing letters or dropping possible story ideas by the Midway office in Lillie House. Published by journalism students, the Midway is kept on legal grounds by an adviser who simply offers suggestions. The adviser doublechecks that no li-

bel, obscenity or anything that reasonably could be considered likely to disrupt the orderly running of the school is published. Administrators have always had a legal right to view the paper before it goes out, but it's been a tradition that they don't.

Communication between Midway staff members and administrators is a key part of the picture, though, as story ideas and feedback is gladly accepted by the staff.

The Midway has and always will be your paper, so keep in touch and let us know what you think about this most recent batch of changes or anything else on your mind.

## Midway Mailbox

### She's back, here's why

To the U-High community from Math Teacher Jane Canright:

AS MANY of you will remember, last spring I was featured in the final issue of the Midway as one of the teachers not returning to the school this year. My reason was a happy one, the adoption of a daughter from China. Well, I'm back after all and I wanted to explain to all of you what has happened.

My adoption is still in the works but is taking longer than I anticipated. It has been a difficult summer, waiting and wondering and answering the same questions over and over. On August 29 I finally got the call. My daughter is waiting for me in the city of Beihai in Guangxi Province. I will be glad to share the photos and details with those of you who are interested.

I will be teaching up until it is time to leave for China around November 1 and then I will be taking the rest of the year off. I will return to the school in September of 2001.

Mr. Jason Smith has been hired to replace me when I leave and until then he will be substituting around the building. I hope you will all take the time to get to know him and make him feel welcome. I am grateful to him for being willing to commit to this job with an unknown starting date.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone who has been so supportive of me throughout this process. In particular, I would like to thank Mrs. Katz, Mr. Stafford, Ms. Goldschmidt, Mr. Knapp and Mrs. Feldman for their patience and flexibility regarding my leave of absence.

I also thank the entire Mathematics Department, my students, and the Math Team for their support and enthusiasm when I announced my plans last spring. Mrs. Shapiro for her help with my application to adopt and the many other people who said such kind things to me.

As I embark on the biggest year of the life, I wish you all a great year too.

### We stand corrected

From Mitch Pravatiner, '69:

YOUR MAY 30 issue, generally very well done as usual, contains a couple of errors of fact—an interesting occurrence in a paper historically so committed to accuracy.

The interview with Lucinda Katz states that she is the first director in the past four decades to last more than four years in the position. She is not. Ida De Pencier's book "The History of the Laboratory Schools" states that Francis Lloyd, who was director when I graduated, started in 1963, giving him a minimum of six years in the job.

The feature on the history of the Midway refers to the Black Panther leader killed by Chicago police in 1969 as "Mark Hampton." His first name was actually Fred. Your reporter apparently conflated Hampton with his close colleague in the Black Panther Party, Mark Clark, who was killed in the same raid.

(Editor's note: Mr. Pravatiner, a Midway alumnus whose opinions frequently appear in the Chicago press, is right on both counts. That issue also included another error in stating Principal Jack Knapp was in Paris four years to study at the Sorbonne. Paris, yes; four years, yes; Sorbonne, no.)

(The Midway's story on the paper's history omitted several Midway alumni working in journalism we couldn't track down at the time we would like to acknowledge now: Tracy Lewis, '84, staff writer for the Naperville Sun in west suburban Bolingbrook; and Jamie Shapiro, '92, Miami television producer.)



Ms. Canright



Mr. Pravatiner

"Luckily, my broken leg did not affect my drawing capabilities, so my ability to do the editorial cartoon for the first-day issue of the Midway was not compromised."

—Junior Jules Federle, sports editor

## Softening the first-day blow

As of today, summer is truly over. The long days of doing nothing are immediately replaced with homework, practices, college applications, schedule changes and everything else that everyone needs to do once school starts. As U-Highers, parents and even teachers get into the mode of school with an overwhelming full week of classes, I'm wondering, why can't there be some sort of transition between summer and school.

Every year, our summer vacation, although it goes by so fast, tends to be longer than other schools', lur-

### Thought Full

Ameer Saleh



ing everyone to drift into a permanently laid-back lifestyle. Even if your summer is not as easy as sitting at home in your underwear watching "Days of Our Lives" and Jenny Jones, I'm sure it is still much more relaxing and serene minus the constant pressure of U-High's notoriously rigorous curriculum.

Sure, during the summer some U-Highers have to worry about being late to work or studying for standardized tests. But that is nothing compared to the anxieties and challenges they encounter when studying for a Branham final or finishing up an English paper for Mr. O'Connor a few periods before it is due.

Induced by school stress, some U-Highers become so concerned with doing all their work they don't stop and think about whether they're getting enough sleep or getting enough to eat after missing all those breakfasts and even sometimes missing lunch. When summer comes they can finally relax.

Even U-Highers who participate in summer school programs feel more relaxed because they are doing the work for themselves, not for a school grade.

It is not just U-Highers who have trouble adjusting from summer to school. During the school year, teachers have an extremely structured and planned day, including cafeteria duty, hall duty, grading tests, driving to school and back home and even teaching. Summer sets them free.

So why then are we not given some sort of grace period to go from summer back into the drudgery of the average school day? Other schools offer a half-day of school on a Friday before classes begin the following week.

That's a good idea. As for the rest of the school year, a shorter summer vacation with time off moved to the end of quarters for longer winter and spring vacation would reduce the stress that follows returning from summer.

Just some thoughts as reality slams us again.

## YOUR SAY IN THE MIDWAY

Compiled by Ameer Saleh

**What did your older brother or sister tell you about U-High?** (Asked of freshmen with at least one sibling who attended U-High.)

**JONATHAN SYDEL** (from the Middle School): My sister told me that it is boring to be a freshman because all the other grades have no respect for the freshmen.

**HANNAH SCHLESSINGER** (Ray School, Hyde Park): My older sisters have told me all about the juniors and seniors that they don't want me to date.

**LAURENT VARLET**, (from the Middle School): My sisters told me that you can pretty much get away with anything at U-High because there is no discipline by the administration so students end up creating mischief.

**NICKI CARR** (from the Middle School): I've been told that U-High can be really fun but it's hard to balance all the work and a social life.



Jonathan



Laurent



Hannah



Nicki

## U-HIGH MIDWAY

Published nine times during the school year by journalism students of University High School, 1362 E. 59th St., Chicago, Ill. 60637. Editorial offices at Lillie House, 5801 S. Kenwood Ave. Phone (773) 702-0591. Fax number (773) 702-7455. Copyright 2000 University High School, Chicago, Journalism Department.

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FIRST-DAY ISSUE

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# Talking up a memorable summer journey

Editor's note: Sam Biederman is a U-High senior. Natalie Bump is a Class of 2000 graduate now a freshman at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. They wrote this dual account of a trip this summer to South Africa. Sam's portions are in roman type and Natalie's in *italic*.

TAKING AIM at a lioness at Kreuger Game Park in South Africa, Natalie turned to me, suddenly struck with a brilliant idea.



## First Person

Sam Biederman and Natalie Bump

"You're on, baby," I said, grabbing a nearby leopard and taking a bite, its warm blood dripping down my tan, muscular forearm. That's right: Africa changes a man. I've come back fiercer and stronger in mind and...

*Shut up, Sam. None of this ever happened.*

Whatever, Natalie. Why don't you tell it, smarty-pants? I will.

She doesn't know.

Sam and I went to Southern Africa from July 3 to July 21 on a trip organized by Prexy Nesbitt, diversity coordinator of Francis Parker School. Besides U-Highers Emily Schuttenberg, Tess Lantos and Ethan Stillman, the trip included one girl from Oak Park-River Forest High School along with seven girls, one boy and three parents from Parker.

The enemies.

Sam.

Fine, the animals were the enemies, too.

That's more like it. After an 18-hour plane ride from O'Hare Airport, we arrived in Cape Town, South Africa's second-largest city. We stayed for only three days but saw Robbin Island, where Nelson Mandela was jailed for 18 years; visited Crossroads, a shantytown where thousands of blacks were forced to live under Apartheid; and saw the University of Western Cape, otherwise known as the University of the Working Class, because its students are mostly black and poor.

Is Amherst mostly black and poor?

No way, baby.

So what was the name of Mollie Stone, '97, doing in their guest book?

I guess we U-Highers get around.

That's the truth, 'cause right after the UWC we were on to Swaziland.

The only monarchical society we'd both ever been to.

Yes, it was a lovely and diverse land.

Like Hell. Everybody's black!

Whatever. The school we visited was diverse.

*You're right. The Waterford Kahlaba School had students from all over the world.*

Yeah, you made good friends with that girl from Lesotho. Her name was Bertha, right?

BERNICE! And she was strong and brilliant. She was at Waterford because she was one of smartest children in Lesotho. I don't think she liked me.

*She didn't, but we had no time to dwell on it in Swaziland, because the next day, it was off to Mozambique.*

Mozam was my favorite part of the trip. It was beautiful and the people we were with were so nice.

*That's not what you thought when we arrived in Maputo. We had just driven for eight hours, been through four border stops—one to leave Swaziland, one to get into South Africa, one to get out of South Africa, and one to get into Mozambique—and Maputo is a pretty ugly place. Remember all the unfinished buildings sprinkled throughout the city? The Portugese burned the plans after they realized they had lost their precious colony.*

Yeah, I guess so, but I think we both saw how alive and different the city really was. I'd never been anywhere like it. We went to the giant marketplace, ate shrimp on the shore of the Indian Ocean and built houses for flood victims.

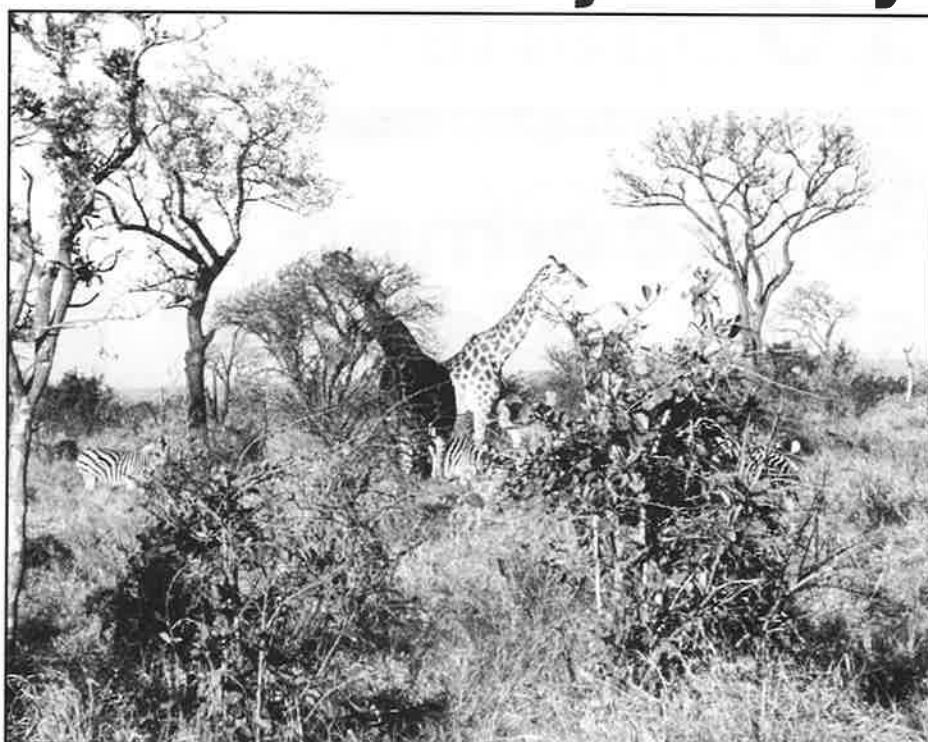
And appeared on international television twice. Once on a talk show with race relations as its topic and then sweating bullets as we constructed thatch houses for a family of four.

It was a lovely and diverse experience.

Shut up! But you're right about Mozambique; it was ugly, depressing, beautiful and exhilarating all at the same time.

Yeah, but the bustling city life of Maputo got to me, which was why the next leg of the trip was such a welcome relief. As fascinating as Mozambique was, I couldn't wait to get back to the clean air of the country, the vast expanse of the high veldt and of course the raw energy of the beast. Yes, it was safari, the moment my rifle and I had—

*That's nice, Sam, but I remember you sleeping through most of the game drives. You were back at camp during the most exciting part of Safari, when an elephant charged at us. I was so scared that I*



THIS LUSH scene was photographed by Sam Biederman and Natalie Bump on safari in Africa last summer. The hippo is grazing on a small island.

held on to a Parker girl for support!

If I were there it wouldn't have charged. Those things started at the ungodly hour of 5 a.m.! No one cares about safari anyway. What comes next?

Just Johannesburg and Namibia.

Right. Jo'berg was awesome. I thought it looked a little like Chicago.

Except for the horrible poverty and relics of government-supported segregation.

How exactly is that different from Chicago? I stand corrected. Namibia, though, was truly different from home.

A giant desert? I should say so. We did a lot in Namibia. We schmoozed with the United States Ambassador's wife at the Jan Jonker School in Windhoek, Ohio, and remember our visit to the Prime Minister?

Remember how he told me that the future would be bright if it were placed in my hands?

I think he was addressing all of us.

You wish.

## Battle of the Uptightans

(Editor's note: In his column "Blimey" J.A. Redfield will report and comment on current events of interest to U-Highers. The Midway encourages readers to share their reactions in letters to the editor.)

THE DEMOCRATS FINISHED their convention in L.A. Aug. 17 with a self-written speech by Al Gore, a pleasantly wonkish 51-minute bedtime story about The People (good guys) vs. The Powerful (bad guys).

Despite chants of "Go, Al, Go!" as Gore jogged earnestly around familiar Liberal bases (the environment, education, health care) I was nearly lulled into peaceful slumber by his resemblance to Mr. Rogers minus the cardigan sweaters and elocution lessons.

**Blimey**  
J.A. Redfield



Gore got the biggest crowd reaction when he mentioned aborion, saying "The last thing we need is a Supreme

Court that overturns Roe vs. Wade." By contrast, Republican Nominee George W. Bush stated his desire to ban partial-birth abortion during the oft-picketed but otherwise uneventful party convention in Philadelphia.

While Bush leads among polled men, the candidates remain tied among polled women, which means that women have either stopped caring about abortion (unlikely, given continuing legal and social battles over the practice) or that they haven't all noticed the difference between Bush and Gore on the issue. Gore's job is to make them notice, and fast, if he has any hope of keeping Clinton's female voting base.

What Gore has been doing is distancing himself from the immoral image of Clinton, while getting credit for The Issues, especially the economy. His selection of respectable, moderate Sen. Joseph Lieberman from Connecticut as his running mate could become more darkly significant if Yasir Arafat proclaims an independent Palestinian slate Wednesday, possibly sparking Arab-Israeli war.

For now, Gore's V.P. selection moves himself even closer to the center and makes him look courageous (by choosing the first Jewish veep candidate) without having to actually be courageous (you can bet the eight percent of anti-Semitic votes Gore lost were never on his side to begin with).

In fact, despite all the convention huzzahs in Gore's honor, the truly courageous ones were Hadassah Lieberman's parents, who survived the Nazis and made it to America.

Let's hope this story is exploited as little as possible in the next few months.

Bush has his pet issues: Fat tax cuts to the wealthy, increased military strength and a ban on partial-birth abortion. But while he may have been a C-plus student, he was a D-minus governor. Education and the environment rank close to the bottom of the barrel and state-sanctioned murder (oops, I mean the "death penalty") occurred an average of once every two weeks during his tenure. That statistic may actually come in handy for Bush as he struggles for Midwestern swing states.

Lurking in the background there are still the Independents. Following the mass suicide of the Reform Party via Buchanan-Perot infighting, Green Party nominee Ralph Nader has emerged as the dominant third party candidate. Nader can do Gore some damage, forcing him to drone out policy to hippies, normally a core constituency, when he could be droning out policy to farmers.

Bush and Gore right now are neck-and-neck in the polls. Still, my money's on Al Gore in this election. His experience in foreign policy and commitment to the environment speak to the future and the country may be unwilling to change political horses in the middle of a turbulent economic stream. Never mind that Gore did little to create the boom, his claim to inventing the Internet aside.

If he can just invent a sense of humor, it might be a beautiful day in the neighborhood for another four years.

## A parody that turns out more than just a joke

LOOKING AT the cover of "2GETHER Again," the C.D. appears just another boy band pop album. But, taking a closer look, something is strange. For one thing, this quintet includes an overweight middleaged man.

Turning the C.D. case over, you find song titles including "U&U&Me." "Awesum LuvR" and "I Gave My 24/7 to You." Familiar, but funny. Obviously, 2GETHER is not a typical group.

Mixing typical boy band pop with humorous, yet poetic lyrics, 2GETHER'S sophomore album, "2GETHER Again" (TVT Records),

delivers even more humor than their debut album last February. That album actually was the soundtrack to an MTV movie parodying a typical boy band.

The movie parodies everything about the group from its formation to its first performance. The songs parody boy

band lyrics and include titles like "Say It, Don't Spray It" and "U+Me=Us (Calculus)." The success of the film and the album has led to a weekly show for the group.

Using a boyband cookie-cutter pattern, 2GETHER has a "Rebel" (Mickey Parke), a "Cute One" (Jason "QT" McKnight), a "Shy One" (Chad Linus), a "Heartthrob (Jerry O'Keefe) and an "Older Brother Figure" (Doug Linus).

Singing about more than salivary problems and math classes, "2GETHER Again" exhibits more humor and meaning than in the debut album while maintaining the element of parody. In "The Hardest Part of Breaking Up (Is Getting Back the Stuff)", 2GETHER sings how upset they are about breaking up with their girlfriends. But the part that hurts them the most is not getting back every material thing the girl took from them.

From "Girl, the way you do me, makes me say whassup," in the upbeat "The Way You Do Me," to "I couldn't resist her, you're little sister," in the low-spirited ballad "Sister," "2GETHER Again" mixes boy-band parody and musically humorous creativity in successful proportions.

But the fact this parody works so well as an album says something about the boy band genre. Because they are so packaged and predictable, the real groups end up open targets.



A CLOSE LOOK at the cover of 2GETHER'S second album reveals this is no ordinary boy band.





"Last year people lost focus on soccer. For instance, there were a lot of people on the team last year who were pretty good athletes, but soccer wasn't the priority."  
-Senior Daniel Schatt, varsity soccer cocaptain

## Soccermen start title hunt

■ Youthful squad can prevail, coach says

By Kian Dowlatshahi  
Sports editor

Starting their Independent School League season off right, the Maroons beat Lake Forest Academy 2-0 last Tuesday at home. A 4:15 p.m. home contest tomorrow against Parker will begin a key week in which three conference home games, including a match at 4:30 p.m. Friday against North Shore and at noon Saturday against archrival Latin, will set a tone for the season.

Relying on a starting group that includes three freshmen and four sophomores, Varsity Coach Mike Moses hopes to resolidify the Maroons as an ISL contender.

A promising showing at the Buffalo Grove Tournament Aug. 25-26 indicates a squad ready to forget last year's frustrating showing. Cutting last year's loss to State Championship caliber Buffalo Grove by three goals and grinding out a 5-5 tie with Amundsen

**"From what I've seen so far, I don't see why we shouldn't win the ISL."**

-MR. MIKE MOSES  
Boys' varsity soccer coach

allowed Mr. Moses to assess the team's strengths and weaknesses before the league matches.

"From what I've seen so far, I don't see why we shouldn't win the ISL," Mr. Moses said. "Playing in the tournaments before the league season gives our younger players especially to figure out their weaknesses. Also it gives them extra opportunities to get experience on the field, so when the time comes to play the ISL powerhouses, we should have a reasonable shot at beating them."

The Maroons got even more playing experience at the Niles West Tournament Aug. 30-Sept. 2. U-High beat Fenton 4-3 in overtime Aug. 30, lost to Niles North 3-2 Aug. 31 and defeated Notre Dame 4-1 to finish the tournament in 3rd place.

Beginning the season with a 0-1 loss against Lake Forest Academy Sept. 5, j.v. hopes to rebound with a stronger showing 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, against Parker at home.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

"We should beat the tougher teams in the ISL," said First Year Coach Tom Piane. "We have a good goalkeeper in Nick Pagoria and we have a lot of good players available off the bench."

With six matches coming up in the next two weeks, j.v. faces a grueling schedule. "It's during this critical part of our schedule where our endurance and physical abilities are really tested," said Sophomore Russell Kohn, cocaptain. "However, if we grow as a team and help each other out more often, we should win all six of these games."

Starting Sept. 20 at De La Salle, the Maroons play eight of their last nine matches on the road. Other games are as follows:

Morgan Park Academy, Sept. 18, away, varsity only; St. Joseph, Sept. 22, away; Gordon Tech, Sept. 23, away; Morgan Park Academy, Sept. 25, home; Elgin Academy, Oct. 3, away; Francis Parker, Oct. 7, away; North Shore, Oct. 10, home; Morgan Park Academy, Oct. 12, home, j.v. only; Latin, Oct. 17, away.

**JUST OUTFRAN** on this one, Matt Wasik (13) looked to touch the ball to Mike Lamb (5), as the Maroons prevailed over Lake Forest Academy, 2-0, Sept. 5 at home. Although making a strong start toward the ISL title, the Maroons have their work ahead of them as they face three more League games in the next week.

## Mirror, Mirror, How Can I Look Great at Homecoming?

*"Come to Cohn & Stern, my prince."*



Photo by Russell Kohn

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## Tennis squad to rely on champion starters

By Kian Dowlatshahi  
Sports editor

Looking to beat Sandburg for the second consecutive year, the Maroons will get their chance when the Eagles come to U-High for a 4:30 p.m. match tomorrow. Despite winning 4-1 last year, Varsity Coach Gerold Hanck sees Sandburg as a tough challenge.

"We have generally done well against Sandburg," he said. "However, they are a good team to measure ourselves against because they are a big suburban public school with good players."

Defending the Independent School League title will force the returning starters from last year to carry the load. Holdovers from last year's championship team include Senior Adrienne Clark, as well as Juniors Jenny Heydemann, Mara Ravitz, Shilpa Gulati, Emma Barber and Claire Stewart.

"Our first priority is to defend our ISL title," Mr. Hanck said. "It shouldn't be difficult because we have all of our varsity players returning to the team. After that, we want to qualify as many players as we can to the State tournament. It would be great if we could qualify the entire team."

State tournament should be a bit easier. Beginning the season by beating St. Ignatius 3-2 Aug. 30, the Maroons continue their quest back to the State tournament with a stretch of four road matches in seven days beginning 4:30 p.m. Thursday at McAuley.

The j.v. squad looks to repeat its undefeated performance from a year ago, aided mostly by depth. Despite having 26 players on j.v. and only three courts to work with, Coach John O'Connor isn't concerned about winning as much as he's concerned about players getting experience.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

**WITH EASE AND STYLE**, Emma Barber bashes a backhand as the Maroons beat St. Ignatius 3-2 Aug. 30 at home.

"I'm worried about getting players maximum court time," Mr. O'Connor said. "I really don't look at the scores of the matches as much as I look at the development of the players."

Other upcoming meets include:

Oak Park and River Forest, away, with j.v. playing Sept. 15 and varsity playing Sept. 16; North Shore Country Day, Sept. 19, away; Lake Forest Academy, Sept. 20, away; Morgan Park Academy, Sept. 22, home; Latin Tournament, Sept. 23; Latin, Sept. 25, home; Nazareth Academy, Oct. 2, home; Francis Parker, Oct. 4, home. ISL Conference follows Oct. 6-7.

### Gross country gearing up

With the Independent School League Pre-season meet at 4 p.m. Sept. 19 in Jackson Park, the girls' team looks to repeat last year's victory while the boys will try to improve last year's 3rd place finish. The meet is the first of three in Jackson Park. The Maroons have five meets over a span of two weeks before the ISL Conference meet Oct. 5.



"In terms of finding a new coach for an open position, the contract really holds us back. As a member of the faculty I must live by it and respect it, however, I would rather see the best coaches possible guide our sports teams. I'm more than willing to go outside the school to get the best coach."

-Athletic Director Karen Duncan



## Help wanted Search for coaches runs down to wire

By Mike Lamb, Editor-in-Chief and Kian Dowlatsahi, sports editor

With 15 coaching switches in the past three years, one element remains constant in the U-High sports picture: change. Two coaching slots were filled just as school was to start. Several more must be filled, including boys' varsity basketball, boys' varsity tennis and boys' swimming.

One problem with getting a fix on the coaching situation is the restriction inadvertently placed on the athletic program by the faculty's contract with the school, points out Athletic Director Karen Duncan. The contract states that if a coaching vacancy occurs, the first applicants considered must be the faculty.

"In terms of finding a new coach for an open position, the contract really holds us back," Mrs. Duncan said. "As a member of the faculty I must live by it and respect it, however, I would rather see the best coaches possible guide our sports teams. I'm more than willing to go outside the school to get the best coach."

Another potential problem with filling longterm coaching positions is the misconception of some of the school community that improving the athletic program might take away from the academic standards, Mrs. Duncan explained.

"People fear you compromise academics for athletics but that just isn't the case," Mrs. Duncan said. "If you look at who's on our sports teams, you'll see most of them are among the better students in the school."

Agreeing with Mrs. Duncan, Associate

Director David Stafford claimed it's not as easy as it looks to fix the situation.

"As we all know, getting anything done here takes time," Mr. Stafford said. "With Jack Knapp coming in as principal, we'd like to get a better balance between athletics and academics. However, to get something accomplished, you need to have everybody on board. All the constituents have to agree and that takes time. The faculty contract also comes into play."

Timely hiring has proven particularly hard for Mrs. Duncan because of some candidates falling through at the last second. For instance, the girls' swimming position had been filled last year, but the coach decided to back out. Ms. Marty Billingsley stepped in and was hired just for the year. This year's J.V. boys' soccer coach Tom Piane wasn't appointed until the week of the first practice.

Naming coaches to fill vacancies has been a problem because of the time the school needs to send out notices and then receive applications, Mr. Stafford said.

"This type of thing can't be done overnight. While it's true that the boys' varsity basketball position has had some changes the past few years, but they've been extreme cases. Since we only offer coaches one year contracts, they don't have any obligations to return. The motivation of coaches also comes into play, whether they do it because they love coaching or because they want the extra money, among other circumstances."

As for athletes, they point out that building player-coach relationships early often proves crucial to a team's chemistry.

## DOIN' THE MAROON SHUFFLE

'98-'99

Girls' J.V. V-ball

Out: Dan Dyra

In: Lisa Miller

Boys' Varsity B-ball

Out: John Wilson

In: Craig Robinson

Girls' Varsity B-ball

Out: Mike Moses

In: Joyce Stiles

Girls' J.V. B-ball

Out: Joyce Stiles

In: Rick Leese & Dan Burton

Girls' Track

Out: Angie Bolton

In: Peggy Doyle

'99-'00

Girls' J.V. V-ball

Out: Lisa Miller

In: Clarissa Booth

Girls' Swimming

Out: Larry McFarlane

& Laura Lantinga

In: Mart Billingsley

& Sylvie Anglin

Boys' Varsity B-ball

Out: Craig Robinson

In: Ron Presley

Boys' J.V. B-ball

Out: Ron Presley

In: Dan Dyra

Boys' Freshman B-ball

Out: Dan Dyra

In: Gary Cowen

Boys' Track

Out: Tom Minelli

In: Art Murnan

Boys' J.V. Baseball

Out: John Wilson

In: Dan Dyra

'00-'01

Boys' Varsity Basketball

Out: Ron Presley

In: ?

Boys' Swimming

Out: Larry McFarlane

In: ?

Boys' Varsity Tennis

Out: Larry McFarlane

In: ?

## No Sunn-shine for swimmers

By Kian Dowlatsahi

Sports editor

Any way you look at it, the swim season hasn't been a pretty picture so far. But it's not the team's fault. The Maroons only began practicing in the Sunny Gym pool a week ago after remodeling was completed. Before that, the Maroons had been practicing in the impractically small two-lane pool at Ida Noyes Hall. Even with only 14 swimmers on the team, including eight freshmen, practices were becoming hectic before the Maroons could move to their permanent home.

With no Independent School League title to compete for, the swimmers have set their own goals, to win more meets than last year.

The Maroons will try to repeat last year's 55-39 victory over Argo, 4:30 p.m., Friday at home. After trying to avenge last year's 17-77 loss to Maria last Wednesday and trying to repeat last year's 65-25 win over St. Scholastica last Friday, with results after Midway deadline, the Argo meet will be the third of only 12 scheduled contests.

"Against Argo last year, we were pretty much equal in terms of competition," Junior Jessica Naclerio said. "We won almost every event, but what made it close was the fact that they were getting points for 5th and 6th place because they simply had more swimmers than we did."

"We haven't really set any concrete goals for the season, but we'd definitely like to win more than the two meets we won last year. Hopefully we can get one of those against Argo."

Other meets are as follows:

St. Ignatius, Sept. 20, home; Riverside-Brookfield, Sept. 23, away; Evergreen Park Invitational, Sept. 30; Fenwick, Oct. 6, away; Regina, Oct. 13, home; Morton, Oct. 17, away; Nazareth Academy, Oct. 24, home; Riverside-Brookfield, Oct. 26, away; Evergreen Park, Oct. 31, home.

## Volleyballers try new plan: Think to win

By Elizabeth Stigler

Sports editor

After last season's 8-9 record, varsity volleyball players say, they did some thinking about what they could change for next season and came up with just that - thinking.

Tomorrow the girls find out if what they hope will be a more focused approach can beat Willows in their 5 p.m. home match, the sixth game in their packed schedule.

"Even though I feel that I know what I'm doing when I'm out on the court, when we play a more mental game and don't let the reputation or our past experience with a team get in our way we can play to our potential," said Sophomore Emily Palmer, varsity starter.

"Last season we had trouble keeping ourselves calm and organized, so our shift in focus this year is an attempt to change that for this season."

Beating the Willows Eagles in both of their matches last season, the girls could christen Kovler Gym with a much needed win. Another nine of the girls' 16 remaining games will take place in the new gym.

In Wednesday's 4:30 p.m. home game against Woodlands varsity, led by Coach Joyce Stiles and Cocaptains Jamie Jo Tyler and Eva Arnason, seniors, anticipate avenging last year's 1-15, 0-15 embarrassing loss to the Wildcats.

"Losing so badly to Woodlands last year at home was a low point for our team," Coach Stiles said. "We did not put on a good performance, so this year against Woodlands we're looking to focus and stay mentally strong and hopefully make it a better game in our season even if we don't win."

A focused 15-13, 15-13 win at Providence St. Mel Aug. 31 gave hope to the team, but a 1-15, 2-15 blow-out loss at Latin the following day put them back where they started.

Against the Lady Knights, j.v. won 15-5, 15-3.

Winning against Latin Sept. 1, again 15-5, 15-13, the j.v. gave Coach Clarissa Booth, U-High '96, a strong

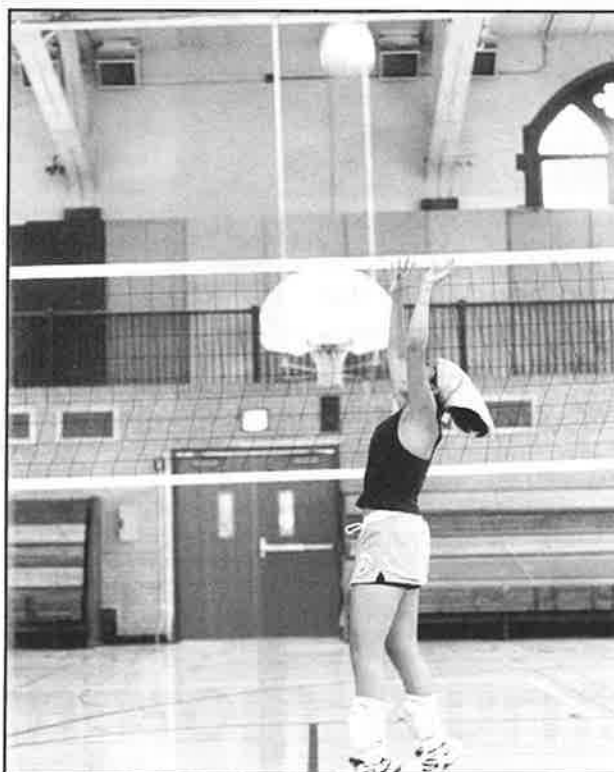


Photo by Betsy Kalven

"I GOT IT, I GOT IT!" Daphne Magana does a set on this particular ball as varsity volleyballers prepare for their season. Led by Cocaptains Eva Arnason and Jamie Jo Tyler, the Maroons hope to increase their thinking on the court, focusing on staying calm.

showing. As for the rest of the season, the volleyball squad feels they can take the Independent School League (ISL) title.

"What's special about our team is that we are really good at pumping each other up and getting everyone mentally in the game," she explained. "We feel that we can take the ISL this year because we can set and spike a lot better, even though our passing needs work."

Other games not already mentioned are as follows: Morgan Park Academy, Sept. 5, away; Luther North, Sept. 8, away; Luther East, Sept. 9, away, varsity only (all three encounters after the Midway's printer deadline); North Lawndale, Sept. 15, home, j.v. only; North Shore, Sept. 19, home; Holy Trinity, Sept. 21, away; Lake Forest Academy, Sept. 22, away; Latin Tournament, Sept. 23, away, j.v. only; Latin, Sept. 25, home; Luther South, Oct. 2, away; St. Scholastica, Oct. 3, home; St. Benedict, Oct. 4, home; Woodlands, Oct. 10, away; Willows, Oct. 11, home; North Shore, Oct. 13, away; Shepard Tournament, Oct. 14, away, varsity only; Lake Forest Academy, Oct. 17, home; Morgan Park Academy, Oct. 19, home.

## Ice rink readied

Midway gets extensive facelift

An Olympic-sized skating rink complete with a cafe and warming house just two blocks west of U-High will open in the middle of January.

The rink kicks off a 10-year plan by the U. of C. and the Chicago Park District to improve the Midway Gardens, an indoor urban gardening center and a childrens playground are also planned.

In the summer, the skating rink will be transformed into an in-line skate park and venue for music and theater which an advisory committee will book.

"The details really haven't been discussed yet," said Ms. Sonya Malunda, director of Community Affairs for the University, "although the University and Park District will probably work together to form an advisory committee."



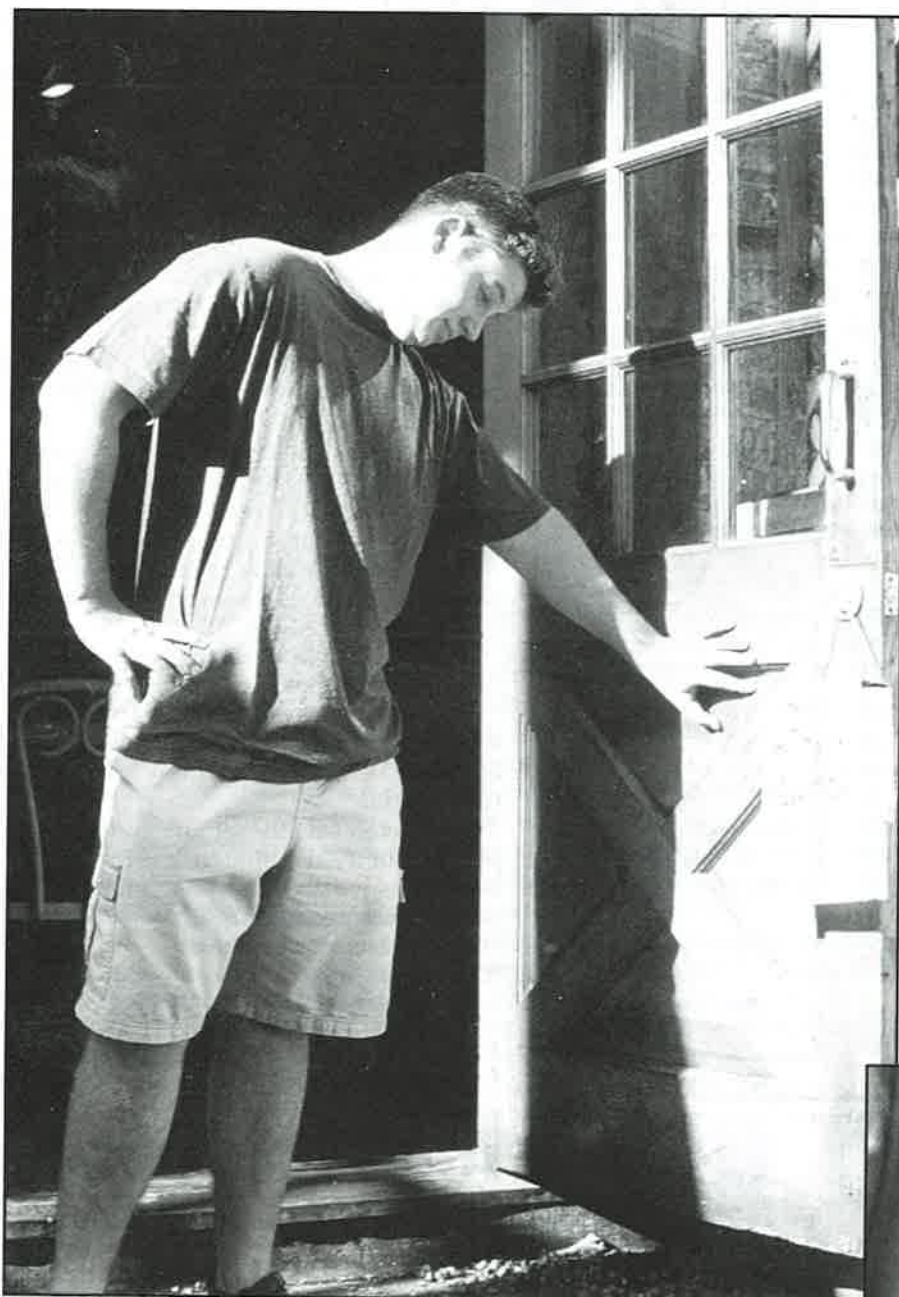
Photo by Betsy Kalven

## Gym nears dedication

THOUGH U-HIGHERS saw the new Kovler Gym in today's assembly and the faculty enjoyed a sock hop there last week, the official dedication comes 4 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 10. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will precede tours of both the new Gym and the improved Sunny Gym. Following brief speeches, students will present a gym show and the Jazz Band will perform. Refreshments will be served. Getting a preview tour from Ms. Eileen Epstein, director of external affairs are, from left, Jamie Jo Tyler, volleyball; Dan Schatt, soccer; (Mrs. Epstein); Jordann Zachary, girls' tennis; and Becky Levine, cross country.



# If Seniors Ruled the World...

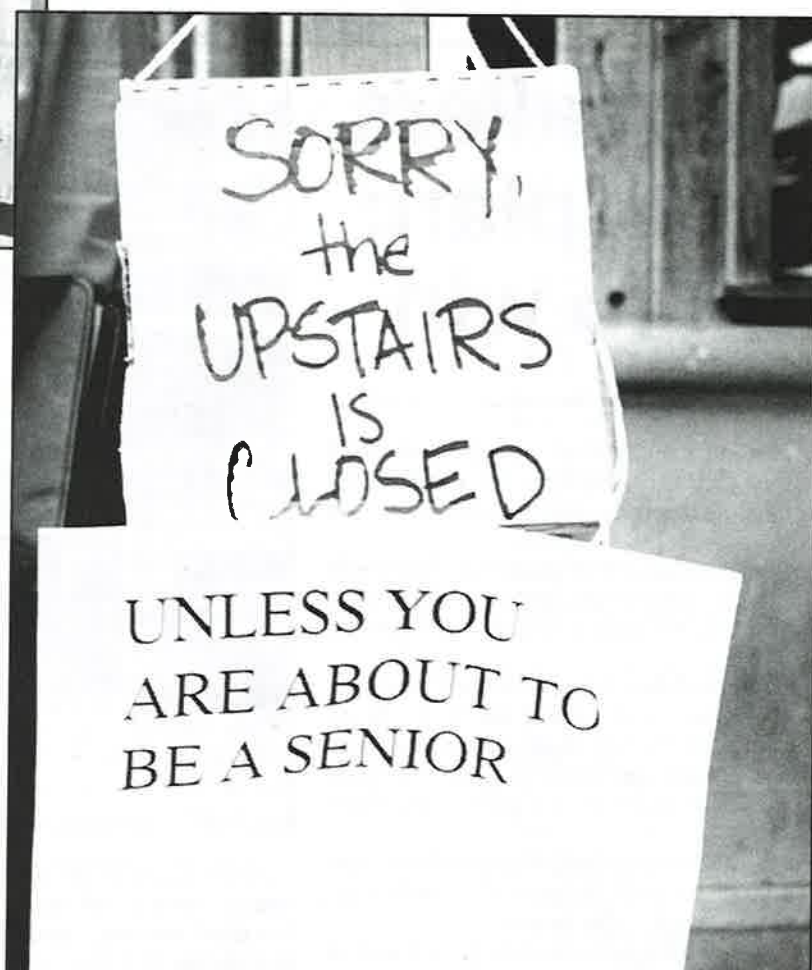


*Photo by Betsy Kalven*

**SORRY, NICK EPSTEIN!** You're only a sophomore!  
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Medici's patio. You see, Nick, when you're a  
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patio is open to everyone, U-  
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- You wouldn't have to decide between a Medici pizza or a Medici burger. You'd just get both.
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- Every senior would get his or her own engraved elevator key.
- You'd decide your grades, not your teachers (thus giving them more time to enjoy their lovely new, very itty-bitty you-could-call-it-fragrant lounge).
- Valet Parking. Like the sound of those words? And who would be the Valets? No, it does not matter they are not old enough to have licenses.



**1327 E. 57th St. ■ (773) 667-7394**

*Monday-Thursday 7 a.m.-Midnight  
Friday and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 a.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m.-Midnight*