Loading up to the max

U-Highers forego open periods as they fill schedules to free up senior year

By Natalie Hoy

For years, open periods have represented a badge of honor for U-High. While other schools plunk kids into faculty-supervised study halls, U-High has considered periods when students don’t have classes and make their own decisions about how to best use their time part of the educational program. And that’s the irony of it. More and more U-Highers are using those open periods for more classes. At least for the three lower grade levels, open periods may represent an endangered species. The coming winter break, in fact, for many U-Highers will represent their first “open” break since school began. A check of schedules indicates that 137 U-Highers out of 463 pack their schedules to course capacity.

“This is the story,” said Principal Jack Knapp. “There are two threads that I see at Lab. One is the A-P-driven thread which seeks the best possible scores for students so they can get into the best colleges. I see a lot of this. The other thread uses more of the Dewey theory of learning and doing. These students seek a more hands-on experimental experience.

“These two threads seem to be frequently in conflict for the school’s soul, but it doesn’t need to be this way. If the pieces are skillfully moved we can have both. We just need to look at the totality of the curriculum. One of my goals is to create a well-rounded education for students and the Curriculum Committee is discussing changes in scheduling to do so.”

With 21 credits needed to graduate, the school requires three years of phys ed, four years of advisory (twice a week for freshman and sophomores and once a week for upperclassmen), four years of English, three years of math, three years of history, two years of science, two years of language, one year of art, one year of music and two electives. But with so many requirements, many students say they find themselves not only taking the required classes but also taking one to four Advanced Placement (A.P.) classes a year to appease prestigious colleges. Many say they would like to have open periods and with little time for personal interests.

The number of U-Highers filling each of the nine 45-minute open periods this school year has increased, although guidance counselors explain that students have a set limit of how many classes they can take.

A lot to do the last year beyond classes

Seniors feel free periods essential

By Sim Khalidi

Midway reporter

8:50 a.m. A senior boy, exhausted and disheveled, exits the U-High lobby onto Kenwood avenue. He walks two blocks south, collapses on a park bench and lights a cigarette. At the same time, another senior is buried in a book in Riverley Library, cramming for the first of her three tests this week. Another senior is at home watching up on some much-needed rest after finishing an English paper late the previous night. Meanwhile, the Senior Lounge is inhabited by two Ping Pong players and a student strumming a guitar. It is 2nd period and for the next 45 minutes these and many other seniors without a class to attend use their time as they want to.

Seniors most likely have more open periods than other students. A check of schedules indicates that this year’s 107 seniors average between two and three free periods a day, with a handful having as many as five free days. On a faded, worn couch, Student Council President Michelle Krohn-Friedson sits in the Senior Lounge.

“It’s sort of a U-High tradition for seniors to have a lot of free periods,” she explained. “Seniors are really overwhelmed with responsibilities and deadlines, especially fall quarter. I think it’s important for us to have that free time.”

On a recent Monday morning (or any Monday morning), the Senior Lounge resembled a refugee relief. With several bodies sprawled across the floor, the eerie silence accompanying the sleeping students echoed their exhaustion. “I can’t function without my free periods,” said a senior girl, one of many who agreed to be interviewed on the condition they wouldn’t be named.

“I use my free time differently at different times, according to what I need to do: homework, college stuff, sleep, sleep some more, or just smoke a cigarette. I would probably be failing without my free periods.”

When each Thursday’s double lunch period begins, seniors can be seen streaming from the school.

“I need to get away sometimes,” explained Senior Jamie Jo Tyler. “Even if I’m just going to drive to get some food for lunch or something like that. Sitting in the cafeteria is too boring. A change of scenery is definitely nice.”

Photos by Betty Kulesh

Among U-Highers with classes every period, Junior Nicky Singh begins her day before 6 a.m. gulping down some orange juice; drives 40 minutes or more to school from her family’s home in west suburban Burr Ridge; starts the day with A.P. Physics C with Mr. David Dorbes; makes his way through other classes, including A.P. French with Mr. Randy Fowler; confers with his A.P. Calculus BC teacher Mrs. Shirley Holbook; practices with the Chess Team during lunch; finishes his classes and heads home to study.

“The limit for a student for their number of classes to take is seven per year,” said Guidance Counselor Bob Bachand. “Even though some have more, it’s only if we catch it that we enforce the seven classes. Sometimes students will add classes and the original isn’t always referred to. Also, the number of students...”

Let’s break outta de joint

The long fall quarter finally comes to an end and students and teachers are ready to close the books and break out of here. Page 2.

Whole lotta shakin’ goin’ on

Winter vacation is the perfect time to treat yourself to a visit to one (or more) of Chicago’s wonderful museums. The City Life page gives you on your way. Page 5.

Musing about museums

Winter Vacation is the perfect time to treat yourself to a visit to one (or more) of Chicago’s wonderful museums. The City Life page gives you a look at what’s going on in the Windy City. Page 5.

Capital experiences

U-Highers recent memorable trips to Washington, D.C., in Fall Peer column.

Not just for the season

Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and numerous other religious holidays converge this time of year. But for many U-Highers these celebrations are just part of a continual commitment to a Supreme Being and a holy way of life.

Our talented little bunch

The MIDWAY’S ARTISTS take the spotlight while our photographers capture the holidays in the spotlight. Pages 16 and 17.
Home or away

"On Christmas Eve we all go to midnight mass together as a family at the local church in Chatham and afterwards we go to my grandmother Mary Jean's house to open presents." —Sophomore Jeannette Rudder

Vacation beckons

By Ben Zimmer
Midway reporter

From warm Caribbean beaches to the wild night life of Amsterdam to the comfort of their own homes, U-Highers will celebrate the holiday season across the globe. Traveling for two weeks during winter break to Martinique, Guadeloupe and St. Martin in the French Caribbean, Sophomore Anaïs Richman-Langman will sunbathe, sail, and shop at outdoor markets with her parents.

"We go someplace warm every winter and we went to the French Caribbean two years ago," Anaïs said. "Our entire family liked the French culture which is very evident there, and my mom doesn’t like the jet-lag of a trip to Europe so we decided to go back. We’ll eat out at a lot of restaurants because my Dad is obsessed with food. Also, I’m looking into going to a local shul, or synagogue, for Hannukah to see how different their Hannukah celebrations are from ours in Chicago."

Also journeying across the Atlantic, Junior Elliot Epstein will travel to Amsterdam with his parents, his brother Ben ‘99, his sister Melissa, ‘94, and one of her friends for a week. "We’re going to do a lot of sightseeing," Elliot said. "We will visit Anne Frank’s home, the famous Rijks Museum of art, the Jewish Museum, and hear the Royal Concertgebouw, a world famous orchestra."

"We’re also going to go to the Red Light District where all the prostitutes are, and check out the cafés where you can get a latte with a joint. Of course we’ll only observe these activities, not participate in them. We’ll also take a day trip to Belgium where we will go to Brus­sels and Gent."

Staying home in Chicago, Sophomore Jeanette Rudder and her family will decorate their house in Chatham with Christmas and Kwanzaa art and posters, green and red lights and candles, and centerpieces as a part of their family’s annual Christmas and Kwanzaa decorating competition.

"The competition is between my mom and her sister, my Aunt Mary," Jeanette said. "It’s been going on since they were little girls when they would have competitions of who could decorate parts of their house better. Now that they have their own houses, the competition is over whose house is decorated better. My Uncle Charles, my mom and Mary’s brother, judges the decorations and decides the winner based on who has the greatest number and most unique decorations."

"On Christmas Eve we all go to midnight mass together as a family at the local church in Chatham and afterwards we go to my grandmother Mary Jean’s house to open presents."

Beginning their Christmas celebrations 28 days before Dec. 25, Science Teacher Dan (continued on page 18)
Security measures grow

Wall separating west end of Belfield from Judd to go up

By Mike Lamb
Editor-in-Chief

With the finalization of the school lockdown plan still yet to come, security efforts have focused on constructing a wall between the west end of Belfield hall and the University’s adjacent Judd Hall to nudge over options for classroom communication.

Recent security additions to the school have been the installation of Blaine and Judd with a keypad entry, a video and intercom at the Kenwood Mall entrance to Belfield Hall for people and the closure of all doors after 9 a.m. except for the Blaine and High School lobbies, said Mr. Tony Wilson, director of facilities and safety.

A Public Safety Coordinator at the Belfield Hall entrance is temporary and will no longer be needed after a wall is built closing off Belfield from Judd halls, Mr. Wilson said.

“Everyone we’ve heard from has said good things about the Public Safety Coordinators, so I’d consider them a success so far,” he added. “The next thing we’re working on is a wall that will in effect cut off Belfield Hall from Judd Hall. It will be aesthetically done with glass and doors that open slowly with the stone.”

“We will also have to make a new exit from Belfield 134, the band room, but we are looking for all of this to be done during spring break and if not then, over the coming summer.”

While the lockdown plan, officially called the Crisis Management Plan, is still in development, plans for devices for communication in every classroom are in the works.

“One of the things we’re thinking about is having there be some way for every classroom to be able to communicate with the main offices or my office,” Mr. Wilson said. “We might provide teachers or classrooms with radios for easy communication.”

With the backing of the Security Committee, we’re trying to find ways to improve security not only through technology, but also through what our specific needs are as a school.”

Council sets up board for student expression

By Jessica Fridstein
Midway reporter

Response to A-U-Highers’ concerns about their political messages being removed from around school, Student Council has established a board titled “Say What” outside Mr. Tom Minelli’s office near the cafeteria.

“Students wanted a place to post signs and state their opinions,” said Mr. Minelli, assistant to the principal. “So it was decided that instead of Mac (Mr. Larry Mcfarlane) dean of students and faculty or myself approving the signs, the Student Council would make a set of rules for the board.

“The signs still won’t be censored, but the rules that are set by the Student Council must be followed.”

Each posted sign must include the date it was posted and the name of the student who posted it. Signs can remain on the board for two weeks.

Student Council plans to survey students about phys ed requirements, the experiences U-Highers have in phys ed classes, whether playing on a sports team merits an excuse from phys ed classes following a faculty Curriculum Committee meeting on November 9, which Student Council President Michelle Krohn-Friedson, senior, spoke.

In the Oct. 10 issue of the Midway, a letter from Michelle outlined the benefits of sports team participation counting as a replacement for phys ed classes.

Principal Jack Knapp invited Michelle to speak before the Curriculum Committee and Phys Ed faculty.

“I felt as though I was put in a very uncomfortable situation of the meeting and in some ways I felt set up,” Michelle said. “I think students in gym feel intimidated by the students that are athletes and it was agreed that a survey would be taken on how students feel in their current gym classes.

“But I think the Phys Ed Department didn’t seem to be open to any consideration of the idea, therefore, I feel that they listened to me with an open mind.”

At the meeting many faculty members said sports team participation and phys ed class participation aren’t the same and don’t provide the same exposure to a variety of sports activities or the opportunity for boys and girls to participate in sports together.

After conducting a survey conducted in Freshman advisors in October, Student Council is discussing the use of gym facilities during double lunch with Athletic Director Karen Duncan.

In Brief: Seniors to escape

Skiing at Chestnut Mountain, ice skating and cross country skiing, seniors will enjoy the weekend of Jan. 13 at Eagle Ridge Lodge near Galena at the Illinois-Iowa-Wisconsin border on the annual Getaway. Organized by senior officers advised by Mr. Tom Minelli, assistant to the principal, the Getaway, after a three-hour bus ride, will begin with a buffet lunch. Swimming, arcade games, a Playstation tournament and a game show will be available at the Lodge, Mr. Minelli said. Seniors will stay in guest townhouses with six to eight students one night per group.

Chaperones for the trip include Dean of Students Larry Mcfarlane and the following teachers: Mr. Jason Smith, Ms. Sharon Housinger, Mr. John O’Connor, Ms. Diane Puklin and Ms. Marty Billingsley.

• FINALSISTS CHOSEN—Three juniors have been chosen to participate in the annual Future Leaders Chicago program which helps outstanding high school students in the area in touch with civic and business leaders through shared projects. The U-Highers are Chris Amos, Josi Levine and Liliana Valdezquez. The winners were chosen from 60 other finalists including Juniors Sarah Arkin, Shelly Carr and Betsy Kalven. The winners were chosen from 60 other finalists including Juniors Sarah Arkin, Shelly Carr and Betsy Kalven.

HOLIDAY HEADQUARTERS

No matter what holiday you’re celebrating this season, Joyce’s Hallmark has just what you are looking for. Ornate Christmas ornaments, huggable holiday stuffed animals and Kreative Kwanzaa cards comprise just some of the festive goodies adorning the treasure trove waiting for you at Joyce’s Hallmark.

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Nick Epstein
have “We 60615 Illinois
Gayla is using a new
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gender identity will be addressed through speakers, student-led discussions and readings from books at the forefront of the gender issue, according to Hannah.

Directions
Photo by Emma Barber
beautiful book from Art Directions.

La Befana

Encouraging members to come to more practices and competitions, the Math Team, with 42 members—10 of them new—is preparing for the upcoming North Suburban Math League (NSML) competition Feb. 1 at St. Ignatius.

Even though only the three top scores out of five are figured into the total score no matter how many people come to the NSML competitions,” explained Math Teacher Shirley Holbrook, head coach. “The greater the number of people who join the team and come to practice the harder it is that we will do well.”

Also, it is bad for us to do well in the NSML because we are competing against some much larger schools—The Illinois Math and Science Academy, for example—where they have a larger pool of students from which they can choose.

Dedicated meetings predominantly to discussions of animal rights, the Terra Club hopes to gain CT-Highers’ support in its efforts to gain the school’s membership.

“Terra Club members are interested in education, science and art,” said Junior Lily Velazquez, Terra member.

It is not a requirement that a student be Catholic to join the Terra Club, but its members feel that this is a Catholic school.

I decided to bring the ISA back to U-High is because I've kept in touch with the children in the community, but we will also send them care packages.

I’ve decided that we plan on setting up a pen-pal system,” she explained. “Not only will this allow us to communicate with the children, but it will also allow us to bring other students on the team into the project.”

Math Team

With the World Wide Youth in science and Engineering Academic Challenge (WWYSE) coming up in February at South Suburban College, the Science Team has begun preparation for one of its biggest meets of the year.

Placing 4th in their Paper Tower at the Engineering Design Contest at Oberlin Nazarre University in Kankakee, Oct. 17, the U-High Math Team was led by a late-place神秘力量 podered by "Sophomore Michael Constantinescu". Michael said he was organized as he was in a recent competition, but didn’t "build any three cars so far and each time have been trying this year’s winter and spring season," he said.

"I don’t expect to get too far," he said. "But I did expect to get to first place."

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GAIYA

"What makes a boy a boy? Or a girl a girl? These questions and the entire issue of gender will be continued in discussions during programs led by Gayla winter quarter.

“Gender is thought of as the lowest common denominator,” explained Senior Hannah Garber-Paul, copresident with Senior Joyce Li.

"Evenattle alliance because it is a men’s issue," she explained. “What—straight alliance allows for all kinds of gender variants, people who don’t believe they fit into the socially-accepted role of male and female. ‘Gay-straight alliance’ creates only diversity. ‘Queer’ will allow us to serve a much broader community."

“BSA is better this year because we have involvement from each grade and because of that the younger members feel like they have a say with what’s going on,” said Junior Janen Marsh, BSA member.

DIWALI, the Indian festival of lights, was celebrated on the assembly Nov. 15 in Kovier Gym with a program sponsored by the Asian Student Association. The event included a fashion show, dances and a skit. The dancers, from left, are Neha Shah, Mikeeta Borsa and Pavitra Makar. They choreographed the dance, in contemporary Indian style, themselves. They are themed "blues of shade of pink, and champagne.

and finally...

LATINO UNIDOS—New friends are being made by children in the little village of Villa St. Hugo in Puebla, Mexico. But those friends are about 80 miles away—members of U-High’s Latinos Unidos organization.

Working through connections that we made during a community service trip to Puebla Rico over the summer with the schools community service program, Lily and I were inspired to set up a pen pal system,” said Junior Daphne Magari, president with Junior Lily Vazquez. “We want to assign each member of the club a child to write to. Although speaking the Spanish language may appear to be an obstacle for the students, speaking English, the club’s executive board will take time to translate the letters for them.

Alessandra, "We are doing a lot of things to help the children in the community, but still we have to face many new problems. Now we have a new sponsor—By Daphne Magari, Latinos Unidos president.

After a three-year absence, the Indiana Students’ Association has reemerged. Freshman Emily Kywel, sister of former BSA member Sam Kywel, ’09, reestablished the club, advised by new Math Teacher Jean Smith.

"We decided to bring the ISA back to U-High because there are lots of Indiana students and after talking to many of them I realized that many of them would be interested in joining the club,” Emily said.

"Not only do we plan on setting up a pen-pal program with the children in the community, but we will also send them some care packages. I’ve kept in touch with the children, but we had to help the housing for us while we were there over the summer. Tita, mother in the community, has received our proposition. Now we await her response."

Men’s Latin Club-For one of its biggest meets. Led by their adviser, Science Teacher Sharon Housinger, members have been quizzing each other on tests which include physics, chemistry, biology, math, English, Spanish, science and engineering.

The club was founded last year by Juniors Roberto Michelassi and Alec Strickling.

"Our idea that all girls have some little brother or sister is a budding artist, indulge him or her with a book or other surprise from Art Directions...the perfect place to find great gifts!

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Long for something new? Freshman

Veneta Xu
wishes her 10-year-old brother was old enough to buy her a book about Art Directions.

Photo by Joe Miller
"I love museums because all the walls are filled with priceless art. Good art makes me feel really happy and serene." —Fresno, Maya Vinikour

DOWNTOWN...
...where all the lights are bright

U-Highers buying gifts for friends and family over winter break can give themselves a gift by visiting one of the city's downtown museums. They can see exhibits ranging from the Sputnik Museum's "Judging a Book by Its Cover" to the Art Institute's "Temple" and the Terra Museum's "Art and Nature: Hudson River School."

The first stop could be at the Sputnik Museum on 615 S. Michigan Ave., open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays with a $5 admission. In the still atmosphere of the museum, footprints can be heard echoing in the silent elegance of three Torah coverings chosen for display in "Judging a Book by Its Cover," on exhibit through Feb. 11.

"It would probably take the rest of my life to make such beautiful Torah covers," said Education Coordinator Amanda Barnett. "The exhibition occurs every two years, and each different Jewish object is selected for artists to decorate and design. These pieces of the Jewish religion reflect religious and artistic achievements of the ancient teachings of the Talmud tradition."

Traveling up to 691 N. Michigan Ave., a crowd viene over the sidewalk to purchase paper bags of caramel corn form Garrett's POPCORN. In the middle of the clearing, a masterpiece appears outside the Terra Museum of American Art, open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays with a $7 admission. Through Feb. 11, the museum will offer an exhibit titled "Art and Nature: The Hudson River School." Included are paintings from The Hudson River School, the first American painting movement. As visitors walk up the stairs, a forestlike feel takes over them. "People are always won over by the exhibit," museum guide Barbara Voss said, "you will realize why some artists such as Thomas Cole and Samuel F. B. Morse created the American Wilds as an object of national pride and identitv."

Located on the Lake a block from the Roosevelt Road Metra Station, the Campus is a 10-minute train ride from downtown. Seagulls over the hetem from nearby hotdog stands create great smells around the sprawling lawns of the 57-acre campus. Entering by way of McFetridge Drive, the huge facade of the Field Museum comes into view.

A bombardment of echoes from the crowds greets visitors upon entering. The hall, as long as a football field and nearly seven stories high, is lit by hundreds of lights covering the ceiling. They bathe the white Greek architecture of the museum's interior in a natural light that changes as the clouds pass overhead. Sue, the largest and most complete model of the dinosaur ever discovered, is on display here. She is the first dinosaur ever to be found with a wishbone, a characteristic thought only to be found in birds. "It is one of the most important dinosaur finds in the last 100 years," said Mr. John T. Rex, administrator of school and teacher programs. "An additional 1 million people have come to the museum this year just to see Sue."

The most popular touring exhibits are "Star Wars: Magic of Myth" and "Kremlin Gold," each open through Jan. 7. "Each time I set up a display I learn something I never knew existed. The world is at anyone's fingertips in the wondrous Hyde Park, at the Museum of Science and Industry, the DuSable Museum or the Oriental Institute."

In the Museum of Science and Industry at 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, 45 Christmas trees from around the world loom over visitors' heads. The Hyde Park, a coal mine and the Museum's world-famous interactive exhibits can be enjoyed for $7 from 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. weekends. Thursdays are free.

The DuSable Museum, 740 S. Wabash Ave., displays "Kremlin Gold" open through March 30 and displays 120 breathtaking masterpieces from crowns to Faberge eggs made of solid gold and gems. The exhibit also displays the fascination history of Russia since the 12th century.

Close to the Field Museum is the Shedd Aquarium. Walking into the darkness of the aquarium visitors won't be told but the 6,000 gallon tank which emits a blue light that ripples on the floors and walls of the cavernous center of the building. The aquarium offers an extensive display of 8,000 different animals. "Amazon Rising: Seasons of the Rain," its newest exhibit, shows different species of aquatic animals found in the Amazon River during its annual flooding. Thunder and the sound of rain echoes in the background as visitors explore plants and animals engaged in hands-on activities. From there, head down to the Oceanarium and see the dolphins, beluga whales and penguins. Enjoying a delicious meal together, boating.

10. The live, bright colors in our museum reflect our culture," said Mrs. Eva Penar, marketing and media director. Images of family, culture, and political and economic struggle decorate the walls of the newest exhibit: "Multiplicity: Prints from the Permanent Collection," continuing through June 10. The museum, free, is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

Although Pilson remains largely Latino, across town a neighborhood that was primarily Lithuanian has diversified. In the middle of the Lithuanian community, Balzezkas Museum of Lithuanian Culture (continud on page 15)

Cruise Into the Nile... Where a feast awaits you!

For a satisfying smorgasbord of middle-eastern delicacies, there's no better place to go than the conveniently located Nile Restaurant. Only four blocks from school, you can choose anything from a plate of hummus to the delectable kifta kabab dish. So this holiday season, take a mouth-watering tour of Middle-Eastern cuisine at the Nile, where vegetarians and carnivores can get together for a meal and some laughs.

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(continued on page 15)
Election turns into waiting game

By Mike Lamb Midway editor-in-chief and Ben Zimmer Midway reporter

No matter who is inaugurated as President of the United States Jan. 21, everyone involved and everyone watching from the sidelines will agree this election has been one big mess. Not since John F. Kennedy beat Richard Nixon in 1960 has an election been so close. It has been 124 years and the Rutherford Hayes presidency in 1876 since a candidate won the popular vote, as Democrat Al Gore did Nov. 7, but lost in the electoral college, as Gore also looked likely to do.

With America’s votes in the hands of the courts, no one really knew how or when the election would be resolved. Everyone, however, did learn the word “Chad”... torn Chad, pregnant Chad and dimpled Chad (the Chad is the piece of paper which is punched out by the voting booth pin).

While conservatives feared the Democrats’ connections to big money lawyers would create an all out Democratic attack in the courts, Gore stuck to the Florida state courts. Republican George W. Bush’s team moved to the national level with an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Despite the fact that Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified the vote Dec. 27, Gore and his top aides claimed they won more votes not only in the national popular election, but also in the state of Florida. They were prepared to fight it out to the end.

Gore, however, could win the election by a combination of a denial of Bush’s appeal and any one of the following: A Miami-Dade County manual recount of about 10,000 ballots indistinguishable by machines that would give Gore the necessary votes; a ruling in Republican Seminole County that would have anywhere from 4,000 to 15,000 absentee ballots thrown out, giving a substantial lead for Gore; or a complete manual recount of all counties in Florida that would include all disputed ballots across the entire state.

With the fear that the U.S. Supreme Court might overturn an earlier decision, the Florida Supreme Court became reluctant to make any rulings that might change the current situation. Their passivity put the Gore team in a bind as all efforts to hold any further recounts or count ballots themselves were rejected.

Anchors on top cable news channels and their “expert analysts” turned partisan themselves and were no longer reporting the news, but making it. Starting with the false calls of both Gore and Bush on election night and continuing with their blatantly partisan commentary, the media lost credibility.

As both sides accused the other of partisanship in the courts and by election officials such as Harris and canvassing board members in Palm Beach and Broward counties, the debate sharply divided the country along party lines. Nonetheless, the crisis, if there was one at all, remained in the courts, while most Americans regarded the scenario as more of a curiosity than a battle.
Overload (continued from page one)

U-Highers loading up their schedules say taking classes they really want sometimes does not prove even feasible with all other necessary requirements.

"I feel obligated to take as many classes as possible," said Junior Daphne Magalhaes. "Even though I haven't taken any A.P. classes yet, I plan on taking as many as I can next year to get into a good school. It's all just for college cause there's so much competition at Lab. There's always that constant fear of 'Am I going to get into college?' We don't really get the chance to explore other talents that we might possess other than trying to gain greater knowledge."

Other U-Highers also agree that the health and quality of their lives have been hindered because of coursework and stress from taking as many classes as possible for college applications.

"I think that the school environment is extremely stressed," said Sophomore Nick Turek. "I truthfully feel like the best years of my life have been taken away from me by school. I mean, I don't eat well, I don't eat breakfast and I end up only getting six hours of sleep each night instead of the healthy 10."

"I've planned each year with either six or seven classes because I want a really relaxing senior year to finally just have fun and take classes that I want," said Katie Tully. "This year I was able to take more enjoyable classes. It has worked out quite well this way, and I would advise all students to try to plan ahead a little bit. You'll be eternally grateful if you find yourself with free periods senior year. My free periods, about three a day, only happen because I've been able to take all the classes I didn't want to take senior year out of the way just so I can take classes that I want for just one year of the four."

Many U-Highers believe the biggest victim of the expectations they feel at school is sleep. They never feel they are getting enough.

"I definitely don't get enough sleep and sometimes it affects school," said Junior Shelly Carr. "It's a terrible cycle. I work so hard when I get home and I end up staying up late, so then when I get to school I'm so tired I can barely stay awake to listen to the teacher, so when I get home I have to work even harder. It's a vicious cycle.

"Also, because of requirements, it isn't even until senior year that I'll get the chance to take classes that I really want and am interested in. You have to accommodate to Lab, you have to work at doing all the work because you have to even though it's overloaded. So even though some may say not that they are overloaded, it's only because we've done this so long. But if I heard another person's schedule, you would know that it was pretty ridiculous, because it doesn't even sound possible to do so much."

Hot on the grill

BEING PRESIDENT can get you into all sorts of other jobs, as Michelle Krohn-Friedson discovered at the senior barbecue Friday evening, Nov. 17. Michelle helped serve up dogs, brats and burgers to a hungry crowd.

Free periods

(continued from page one)

A few seniors occasionally use open periods to go home or to friends' homes to drink or smoke. Dean of Students and faculty Larry McFarland said the school has always known such behavior takes place. "We haven't seen it as a problem this year," he commented. "In fact I've been impressed with the seniors thus far. I really think it is important for seniors to learn to use their free time wisely since they will be in college next year."

Seniors mostly say they don't regret having filled their schedules to free up their last year.

"My first three years, I got all the classes I didn't want to take senior year out of the way" said Katie Tully. "This year I was able to take more enjoyable classes. It has worked out quite well this way, and I would advise all students to try to plan ahead a little bit. You'll be eternally grateful if you find yourself with free periods senior year. My free periods, about three a day, are a good amount, but I could certainly use even more...a lot more."

Something Different

Cocorico Rotisserie offers the solution for U-Highers who want a great meal to get them through the day without devoting a great time of time to getting it. It's hard to resist freshly-roasted chicken with an assortment of hot side dishes waiting for you not far from school. Try us for lunch or for a wonderful dinner! Can you say "Cocorico"?

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U-HIGH MIDWAY • TUESDAY, DEC. 12, 2006

Senior-ity

Photo by Will Miresdorf

(about the class barbecue Nov. 17)

Photo by Kelsey Harden
History comes to shocking life

After two months of scrutinizing readings and poring through gruesome videos, my Holocaust class was finally "ready" to take the annual trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., Nov. 18-21. History Teacher Susan Shapiro prepared the 15 of us going on the trip by exposing us to the extreme, both in readings and videos. We thought we had become numb to the event, after reading Elie Wiesel's and Primo Levi's personal accounts of their fight for survival in "Night" and "Survival at Auschwitz," respectively.

Some of us were in fact numb to the museum, but others were amazed by the building itself, designed by a survivor. Everything from the lights to the elevators contain special meaning, as the building was designed to resemble the camps and train stations the victims went through.

Visitors take elevators to the top floor and circle downwards through each of the four floors of exhibits. Overwhelmingly, though, our class was taken by the actual objects the survivors wore or were around that were on display. Uniforms, shoes, diaries, milk jugs, tree stumps and a boxcar all threw us back into the experience.

I was numb to the museum simply by the extremity of the Holocaust...until I walked across the bridge of the top floor with names of all of the towns that lost their Jewish populations written on the glass walls.

As soon as I stepped onto it, I saw Baden-Baden—the name of the town where my German relatives are from. To feel little or no connection to the Holocaust, especially because I'm not Jewish, and then to have it hit me right on the bridge changed my outlook. From then on, I was more sensitized to the museum. When we passed a tree stump that had been inches from a pile of murdered victims killed by Nazi firing squads, the enormity of the Holocaust hit me in that this was just one of hundreds of scenes like it.

I don't know whether it was the fact that we were missing school or that we were a thousand miles from home or the exhibits themselves, but as I look back on the trip, it seems surreal. It seems like something that didn't really happen.

And then there was our 15-page paper to write and I suddenly remember it all did.

It's impossible to explain to those who have not been with us what we have gone through not only in the museum, but the class in general. Especially since even after all of our experiences we still know so little. —History Teacher Susan Shapiro

Knock off the Winter chill with a little bit of spice...

If you're strapped for cash this holiday season but still want to eat some succulent, tender meat, a Ribs-'n-Bibs meal should be the first thing you think of to satisfy your craving! Whether you have a taste for a spicy bucket of ribs or some fried chicken wings, we have lots of options. Plus we're affordable so you have money left for gifts!

Making sure to suck all the tender meat off the bone, seniors Sophie Castro-Davis and Lindsay Strong split a bucket of delicious barbecue ribs from Ribs-'n-Bibs.

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"The trip was a great experience for me because I learned about being a leader while also broadening my perspective on politics."

—Junior Brandon Gardner

The trip was a great experience for me because I learned about being a leader while also broadening my perspective on politics.

—Junior Brandon Gardner

Editor’s note: Senior Megan Dawson and Junior Brandon Gardner attended the Nov. 14-19 National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C., along with 350 other high school students from around the nation. Here, Megan recounts her experience.

FROM THE MOMENT I stepped off the plane to when I got to my room at the 4-H Center, I was meeting people from all over the country. My roommates, both from College Station, Texas, were very warm and welcoming. Now that I think about it, everyone that I met was extremely polite. They all seemed shocked and taken aback by the fact that I was from Chicago. Almost everybody was from Small Town, USA, and I got the feeling that they didn’t leave there much. So I see why they were excited to meet someone who lived in a city with more than 20,000 people.

I spent the first night getting to know my roommates and the 21 people in my leadership group. It was in this smaller group that we spent most of our time and built the closest relationships.

The National Young Leaders Conference was split between seeing Washington D.C., and various simulations within our leadership groups. Our trip to the Embassy of Finland was my favorite place in D.C., because the architecture of the building was so amazing. It was built six years ago, so it was very modern and state-of-the-art.

We also visited Union Station, Capitol Hill, the National Press Club and all of the war memorials.

At Capitol Hill, we had the chance to meet our senators. Unfortunately the Illinois senators weren’t in town, so we met with staff members. It was disappointing, because they couldn’t answer our questions at all.

The other parts of the Conference were the three leadership simulations. These were each related to the branches of the government.

The topics were foreign policy, a Supreme Court case, and a proposed Bill.

The main reason for lack of sleep was the extensive preparation needed in order to make these simulations run smoothly and effectively. I was typically awake at midnight learning my role in the simulation the day before it was taking place.

The big culminating event to this whirlwind week was the dinner-dance aboard the ship the Spirit of Washington. The dance was in a semiformal setting, so accordingly people went all out on their outfits. It was here that it became clear how close we had all become in that short period of time. And also how much we would miss each other.

Sunday morning, we all accepted our certificates and vowed to keep in touch via e-mail. It was truly an experience that changed my views about leadership and how people can affect, even if they are complete strangers.

The trip was a great experience for me because I learned about being a leader while also broadening my perspective on politics.

—Junior Brandon Gardner
For U-Highers, religion reigns as a way of life

Dribbling down the court, freshman Amit Mittal blows by his defender for an easy lay up, but is fouled as he shoots. He makes his way to the free-throw line and getting the ball from the referee, he closes his eyes. With a combination of Hindi and English, he prays to God to let him make the free-throw so his team will win. He opens his eyes and takes the shot. The ball goes in. "Thank you," he whispers.

Amit's use of prayer is just one of the many ways U-Highers deal with religion and pray in their lives. And once U-Highers are through unwrapping their presents for this holiday season, many will begin thinking about what place religion and prayer has in their lives.

"I pray everyday to thank God," said Senior Chakka Reeves, a Baptist. "And to ask Him to bless my loved ones and people I know. I don't pray for material objects, I pray for understanding. I pray for the things little and big that will bring success to me and the people dear to me." Though young, Chakka has already learned the importance of spirituality in life.

Senior year has been really stressful and I pray for the ability to use and take advantage of the many ways God is using to help others at school. I pray for the ability to feel the effects of 'sensitivities' so I pray for diligence in my week, I always want to be running late, I have to make sure every day is productive and get the best out of it all."

Senior Tiffany Northrup, a Reform Jew, said she tries to avoid praying about things for which she, not God, is responsible.

"I pray to God in gratitude, thanking God for all the blessings he's given me," she explained. "Praying gets me thinking about what I'm grateful for. I try to avoid praying for things that I have control over, like grades and my skills in basketball. I know there are a lot of things in my life God has control over and I thank him for blessing me with not making the things I don't have control over happen.

She added that the only time she is able to do so is at night in her room before she goes to bed because, "It's the only time during the day for me when I don't have to worry about classes or club meetings. I am able to keep all my thoughts focused and be reflective because of the more serene surroundings.

Freshman Tom Vasili, a Catholic, also considers praying in his room helpful because he finds praying in a church overwhelming.

"When my grandmother died, I prayed in the comfort of my own room where I could just be with my thoughts and myself," he said. "I felt upset that she was taken away before I got a chance to know her. She had lived in Bosnia, and the only time I had ever gotten to see her was when I was two years old and I don't even remember the visit."

"So I went to my room and just lay down and started praying. I prayed out loud. I didn't do any hand movements. I just thought about the situation and eventually something clicked inside my head and I understood that it was just her time."

Tom said he would probably have had trouble praying in a church because his attention would have been diverted.

"I doubt I would have had the clarity and balance of mind I had praying in my room where I had prayed in church. I just find the whole architecture and design and the sculptures distracting from what prayer is really all about. I don't need manifestations or religious rituals to pray to God to be able to believe He is all around us. I feel somewhat unworthy of God when I pray in church."

Tom said he prays whenever he can because it lifts his spirits.

"It puts me in a better mood. I'm able to have a one-on-one chat with God. Even though He doesn't talk back, I know in my heart He's listening."

While some U-Highers pray, others meditate. As described by her religion, Sophomore Michelle Satriawananukorn, a Buddhist, meditates to relieve stress.

"Meditating makes me feel cleaner and purer," she said. "There are certain hand positions and breathing exercises I use to help me clear my mind of all thoughts. When I finally clear my mind, I feel. I feel really proud.

"I wouldn't meditate if someone were sick because it is used to give you physical and mental clarity, not to help you get through a tough time dealing with a serious issue."

Although Michelle is a Buddhist, she still celebrates Christmas with her family.

"We use it as a break from daily routines and as a time to be together. We don't view it as a religious holiday."

For many U-Highers, parents provide the source for views on prayer, but for Freshman David Hinterman, a Reform Jew, the two most influential people who have talked with him about prayer are Rabbi Donald Gluckman of Temple Ahame Sholem and History Teacher Susan Shapiro, faculty advisor for the JSA.

"My rabbi told me basically not to pray for yourself but to pray for the Jewish people as a whole," David said. "From that I realized it's okay to pray for yourself but only when you're having a hard time on a serious issue; to stop praying about trivial things. Though he has since stepped down as rabbi, I still find value in talking to him."

"Also, I found myself talking to Mrs. Shapiro after class about Judaism. I used to think that prayer was something to make you feel better about yourself. She made me realize that prayer is not just a thing or an object, it's how you're feeling or thinking, and it's something special, not run of the mill."

Because of her tenure at the Lab Schools and her relationship with the student body, many U-Highers consider Mrs. Shapiro to be knowledgeable about religion, especially in the lives of high schoolers.

"From my experiences the fear of failure causes high schoolers to pray," Mrs. Shapiro said. "And not just on an academic level like I used to but also in the sense to succeed and have very high expectations for themselves; they want to be the model kid. They also have to deal with the pressure of their peers expectations of them. There are definite gains kids are looking for when praying and they will get as much help as they need. They pray to God to help them succeed."

"At a more profound level, I think kids pray because they don't know what else to do. They also pray even when they don't think it's praying—you know, when a kid closes his eyes and kind of sets his hand up. They are through praying. I use to pray to God to help me succeed."

"I would pray for anything, from getting through a difficult week, to helping them get through a tough time."

"Philosophers would say prayer is about death, but teenagers don't even realize they're afraid of death. But just the action of praying gives kids reassurance, and that is usually all they want."
My religious involvement is an opportunity for me to meet and learn from people with the same background and I wouldn’t otherwise have known.

-Sophomemhan Green

**Localed in a**

a black Southwest neighborhood of Chicago which has seen better days, the 17th-century-styled, beige mortar facade of St. Sabina’s Church, at 79th and Racine, where gang members and neighborhood store owners alike gather every week, makes the newspapers and T.V. news shows regularly. The reason: the church’s unique approach to gang-related violence has been quiet, systematic, and effective, and involves the community in the process. This morning, the Rev. Pfleger speaks with a 24-year-old Laurence Catholic schooler to help ensure that we have appropriate staff to teach. I give my expertise, loyalty and commitment to a community that helps lead her church’s teen group. Leah said her main influence is her parents, who is one person who questions people about life and then tells them about Buddhism to make them more aware of his religion.

"Shakboh is a way that Buddhists show non-Buddhists what they’re about and what they stand for," Tonell said. "I believe that I am a disciple, and that it’s my obligation to be a messenger of the way.

"Up until 7th grade I was troubled by both my peers and teachers," he said. "I had a lot of heart disease and lost a lot of children because of the skin color and race I didn’t know. Paired by my mom, I began to pray and think things began to happen, and I made some big changes in my life."

Because of all the benefits Buddhism gave to me, I began to use my life as an example for others and practice Buddhism as a way of life. This is one person who questions people about life and then tells them about Buddhism to make them more aware of his religion.

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A delicate balance

For nearly a decade, the school has invited senior and junior students and faculty groups to tell his own story about how drugs and alcohol ruined his life and then how he claimed it back.

The speaker is Mr. Marcus Newman and, as might be expected, reactions to what he has to say are varied. Some think his visit valuable, some say you don't get much out of them and so it goes. Mr. Newman, 29, works as a financial planner, but also doubles as a private health education consultant.

During the week of November 13 and again two weeks later, Mr. Newman spoke to junior advisories and not only told his story, but every year revisited to share their stories as well.

There is a bigger story here, though.

A belated Thanksgiving

With the end of fall quarter only THREE DAYS AWAY and the holidays right around the corner, the Midway staff would like to thank you.

Seniors fill free periods as long baths, sleeping in & double lunch. Mr. DeRuyter's classes are a late night visitors. A reading a good book, the wonderful librarian & breakfast at Valo's. Mrs. Montgomery; Mrs. Hoegting's graciousness is on, anything you Gumby bear take a full load. DeRuyter, does anything you get into college good surprises from finished applications. Reflection Eternal; handsome senior boys & "full time" assemblé cute senior girls & cute junior girls; innocent freshmen & mid-school shady diploths & rumbler dome & late-night phone conversations. 

Mr. Newman is not only coming to re-tell his story to students, but at least in recent years, to report any students he comes in contact with feels improved.

The mixing of these two roles is dangerous enough and ethically questionable. But even more so, many students have told the Midway that he didn't tell them that he was obligated to report to the school until after both sessions were over and even then, only to those who stayed past the period.

Whether or not that happened, the school needs to keep close watch on student reaction to the program, because what works one year might not work the next. And it perhaps is rethinking an in-school suspension policy above as an informant-an arrangement that raises sticky ethical questions.

U-High Midway

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IN ADDITION to quibbling about the butterfly festival, it might be a good idea for area leaders to consider the situation in Israel, where years of hostility seem ready to explode in yet another war. Trying to appear fair, the U.S. has refused to commit troops to the Middle East–except, of course, for the 17 American sailors killed in the Gulf of Yemen last month. The fact that the America supports Israel’s increasingly infeasible boundaries, the closer the U.S. is drawn to the region’s dangerous political climate. Unfortunately, Israel’s nuclear arsenal act as an ace up its sleeve, making compromise with the weaker Arab nations equally difficult and necessary. In a U-High’s liberal, pro-Israel community, many people might support the American push for peace in the Holy Land, the issue that America and Israel are facing. In fact, the U.S. is the only nation to unconditionally support Israel since its laws were officially drawn in 1948. Although there were some strategic reasons for Israeli expansion during the Six-Day War, their military domination of all neighboring countries sets a dangerous precedent.

DANGEROUS GAME

U.S. isn’t helping by helping

If you had to trade gifts with Santa, what would you give him and what would you want in return?

Matt Wasik, sophomore: I’d first take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old. I’d next take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old.

Tori Jen, sophomore: I’d first take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old. I’d next take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old.

Jen Vinson, senior: I’d first take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old. I’d next take a new pair of boots because his are getting kind of old.

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Outkast again shows how funky hip hop can be

“Love From The Center of the earth, seven light-years below sea level we go, unencumbered to Stankonia, the place where all funny things come to mind. Wish you’d join us?”

THE ANSWER to that question would have been “yes...yes I would!” However, make sure you bring a pair of stilts or a scuba, ‘cause in Stankonia funk always pours down the drain.

Titled “Stankonia,” Outkast’s fourth album is sure to do exactly that. “Leave, ‘Stank on ya” or else you’ll light up those scuba’s and you’ll be cooking some hot sub sandwiches. With the release of their first single, “Paranoid,” the duo continues to elevate to levels of such superiority that they leave other artists fall- ing far behind.

Outkast, known for its ability to change styles on every album, often referred to as the “chameleons” of the Hip-Hop world, prove that they have the formula for success in its last album. The group represents a style and sound which sets the trend, separating from the following it. Never allowing its popularity to produce a moment’s reflect, its past albums, the group’s unpredictable and immense creativity serve both it and its disciples. After a lengthy vacation and other artists, while at the same time leaves listeners in a state of awe.

From Andre 3000’s fashionable clothing, reminiscent of F Punk and the Funkadelies, to Big Boi’s “Pimpkins,” down south rap, the two vocalists leave their fans puzzled and intrigued.

The album cover substitution black in place of the red and blue of the American Flag, Big Boi and Andre 3000, stood with patriotism in front of the flag of Stankonia.

And why not stand proud with patriotic-ism? With hit songs such as “B.O.B.” (Over Coffee and Bagel) and “Ms. Jackson,” Stankonia soared to the top of the Billboard chart landing the number two slot, best out only by R. Kelly’s new album titled “TP-2.com” its debut week.

But, it’s not the songs such as “B.O.B.” and “Ms. Jackson,” which make this album truly great, however they do help. It’s the tracks which at first listen seem unappetizing that slowly work their way into your head leaving you unable to stop listening to the Tracks such as “Humble Mumble,” “Red Velvet,” and “Ill Call Before I Come,” all allow listeners to both see and hear the full potential and depth of this album.

With guest appearances from B-Real of Cypress Hill, Erykah Badu, Gorgaas A Boo and the Three-6-Mafia and of course the Dungeon Family, Outkast again shows its ability to capture a feeling of soul, funk, rap, hip hop and rock into another hit album. Flop is definitely not in these guys’ vocabulary.

Potbelly’s will please your belly

AFTER A STIRNEOUS DAY of school, I felt the craving for some hot sub sandwiches. Generally al­ways hungry, Sophomores Nick Turk and Brian Fierke decided to join me at Potbelly’s Sandwich Works, located downtown on State and Wabash.

Featuring more than 15 different subs, from the original turkey sub to the Shanghai Sichuan Spicy Chicken, Potbelly’s lets you customize your toppings, an essential for all those who have to have a sub “their way.” Not only can you pick up some subs, but you can also get some soup and some

EASY TO GET at 904 N. State, Potbelly’s hot subs and cool prices make it a great place to eat. Brian Fierke, left, Nick Turk and Brian Epstein, enjoyed Potbelly’s original turkey sub with mayonnaise and provolone cheese.

potbelly’s will please your belly

Mad Munchies

Excellent milkshakes. There are several different flavors available, chocolate, vanilla and strawberry.

With the weather swarming with trinkets and ads for cigarettes and root beer from the 1960s, Nick, Brian and I were immediately sucking down the straw from the dressed and assorted atmosphere, taking in the smells of hot bread and mayonnaise. It was only 4 p.m., the line for food was short; we only had to wait about five minutes till we placed our order. The service was quick and courteous. It is to call the restaurant 15 minutes before you go, place your order, stall in, skip the line and pick up your food.

I chose my usual, a hot turkey sub with mayonnaise and Brian ordered a hot turkey sub with lettuce, tomato and vinegar.

A cynical story

"Weaving Race and dedication into a gripping film about a black man’s strug­gle to achieve his American Dream," "Men of Honor" directed by George Tillman, Jr. of "Soul Food," is based on the life of Master Salvage Diver Carl Brashear (Cuba Gooding Jr.), a sharecropper’s son who would be­come the first African-American Mas­ter Salvage Diver in the U.S. Navy.

Upon enlisting, Brashear takes his father’s parting words “Don’t come back, ... be the best to heart and strives to overcome any obstacle he faces. Exuding confidence and ten­acity, Brashear writes over a hundred letters to be admitted to the Navy Div­ing School and after he is accepted, is im­pressed by Master Chief Sunday (Robert De Niro), a racist who gradually grows to respect him.

Providing an admirable role, Gooding portrays Brashear as a man with humble pride. He immediately displays his skills. When tak­ing a test requiring each diver to assemble an underwater pump, the Master Chief Sunday tries to impede Brashear’s chances of pass­ing the test by rip­ping Bras­haar’s tools needed to assemble the pump. After nine hours un­der water, Bras­hear collects the pieces and builds the pump, passing the test needed for him to graduate.

By overcoming this challenge as well as recovering four hydrogen bombs from the ocean and suffering an amputated leg, Brashear finally earns respect from his peers. With a dynamic performance as the cold­blooded Master Chief Sunday, De Niro’s role is tricky because he takes a hiliarous role in a movie that rev­olves around will and determination, display­ing De Niro’s widened acting abilities. Setting nearly every scene in near death experiences underwater, competition-filled bars or intense courtroom dramas, Tillman captures the essence of a man’s struggle to be the best in a white man’s world. Pro­viding a strong cast which doesn’t fail to induce sympathy and understanding, “Men of Honor” proves an inspirational film definitely worth seeing.

Potbelly’s will please your belly

Disc Man Nick Hill

Potbelly’s will please your belly

Nick Epstein

Excellent milkshakes. There are several different flavors available, chocolate, vanilla and strawberry.

With the weather swarming with trinkets and ads for cigarettes and root beer from the 1960s, Nick, Brian and I were immediately sucking down the straw from the dressed and assorted atmosphere, taking in the smells of hot bread and mayonnaise. It was only 4 p.m., the line for food was short; we only had to wait about five minutes till we placed our order. The service was quick and courteous. It is to call the restaurant 15 minutes before you go, place your order, stall in, skip the line and pick up your food.

I chose my usual, a hot turkey sub with mayonnaise and Brian ordered a hot turkey sub with lettuce, tomato and vinegar.

A cynical story

"Weaving Race and dedication into a gripping film about a black man’s strug­gle to achieve his American Dream," "Men of Honor" directed by George Tillman, Jr. of "Soul Food," is based on the life of Master Salvage Diver Carl Brashear (Cuba Gooding Jr.), a sharecropper’s son who would be­come the first African-American Mas­ter Salvage Diver in the U.S. Navy.

Upon enlisting, Brashear takes his father’s parting words “Don’t come back, ... be the best to heart and strives to overcome any obstacle he faces. Exuding confidence and ten­acity, Brashear writes over a hundred letters to be admitted to the Navy Div­ing School and after he is accepted, is im­pressed by Master Chief Sunday (Robert De Niro), a racist who gradually grows to respect him.

Providing an admirable role, Gooding portrays Brashear as a man with humble pride. He immediately displays his skills. When tak­ing a test requiring each diver to assemble an underwater pump, the Master Chief Sunday tries to impede Brashear’s chances of pass­ing the test by rip­ping Bras­haar’s tools needed to assemble the pump. After nine hours un­der water, Bras­hear collects the pieces and builds the pump, passing the test needed for him to graduate.

By overcoming this challenge as well as recovering four hydrogen bombs from the ocean and suffering an amputated leg, Brashear finally earns respect from his peers. With a dynamic performance as the cold­blooded Master Chief Sunday, De Niro’s role is tricky because he takes a hiliarous role in a movie that rev­olves around will and determination, display­ing De Niro’s widened acting abilities. Setting nearly every scene in near death experiences underwater, competition-filled bars or intense courtroom dramas, Tillman captures the essence of a man’s struggle to be the best in a white man’s world. Pro­viding a strong cast which doesn’t fail to induce sympathy and understanding, “Men of Honor” proves an inspirational film definitely worth seeing.

Potbelly’s will please your belly

Disc Man Nick Hill

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Josh Joseph

A doodler becomes an artist

With his dark eyes and stern face intently staring at his sketchbook, Junior Josh Joseph sits doodling a quick sketch of whatever idea floats into his mind while bored in class. What started as a mindless habit all through Middle School for this Midway artist quickly grew into something much more as Josh realized that his sketches looked good and he had real potential as an artist.

"In order to become a better artist I knew I needed to improve my skills," Josh said. "I drew on and off through Middle School and as soon as I entered High School it was like I was bitten by the drawing bug. I enrolled in intensive art classes this summer at the Hyde Park Art Center. "We studied nude models. It's essential to learn how to draw what's underneath a person's clothes before you can understand how to draw that person with their clothes on. At first I had this adrenaline rush because there was a naked person in front of me, but that quickly faded. It's really just art."

Josh mainly focuses on drawing real life images. "I like to draw people and places," he said. "I view my subject as a bunch of lines put together and I try to make the foundation of my sketch as solid as possible. Because printed materials are expensive, I use my computer to scan in color. In the future I hope to find an outlet for my artwork because it's something I really love to do."

Joe Sellers

A fascination with faces

In a quiet room, a tall, blond teenage boy sits down at a desk with a sketchbook and a few pencils. He pauses to picture an imaginary person. He opens the book and before beginning to draw, he focuses intently on the imaginary subject's eyes and expression.

"I really like to draw people's faces," said Senior Joe Sellers. "I generally make up the person I draw. I try to get their emotions and personalities into their eyes and eyebrows. Each person has their own unique eyes and they are very expressive." Joe began to draw in kindergarten and it has remained a hobby since then.

"My dad and my brother used to draw so I just kind of started," Joe said. "I started to get sketchbooks as gifts and I bought some and I just filled them up with drawings.

"I've never taken any classes out of school. I took mixed media sophomore year and I am in beginning drawing and painting now. I never have had any actual exhibitions but some of my work has been displayed in school before."

"In my drawing, my own views and then from a outsider looking at my drawing. Josh mainly focuses on drawing real life images. "I like to draw people and places," he said. "I view my subject as a bunch of lines put together and I try to make the foundation of my sketch as solid as possible. Because printed materials are expensive, I use my computer to scan in color. In the future I hope to find an outlet for my artwork because it's something I really love to do."

Enrique Lomnitz

A talent for the stylish life

With his colorful fashions and wild curly hair, Senior Enrique Lomnitz's artistic style shows in more than just his artwork.

"I was a fashion designer, while his dad took drawing and painting courses at the Art Institute. Taught basic drawing skills by his mother Elena, an artist, Enrique began cultivating his artistic skills from a young age. A trip back to his birthplace of Mexico City two years ago revitalized his passion for art. "Art has been in my household for as long as I can remember," commented Enrique, who moved to Chicago when he was 5. "From 6th grade until 8th grade my focus wasn't really on art. I started taking art class in Mexico City and that's where I discovered that art was what I wanted to do for the rest of my life.

"It's so fulfilling to me. I can sit down and start to draw and I lose myself in the moment. It's like you can't get enough of something you love so much." Drawing more than just lines on paper Enrique expresses himself through each piece of artwork.

"Every work I do has a piece of me in it," he explained. "I take my art from multiple perspectives. From the figures in my drawing, my own views and then from a outsider looking at my drawing. It helps me realize more about myself by looking through another person's eyes."

Applying predominantly to art schools such as Rhode Island School of Design and Pratt, Enrique hopes to take his talents to the next level.

"I want to pursue my talent and major in art in college," he said. "Hopefully I will be able to sell my art and be recognized for it. I basically plan to be larger than Jesus."
A matter of time
FREE TO PHOTOGRAPH any subject, Ms. Liese Ricketts' Advanced Photography stud­ents took 30-second exposure shots, many focusing on light changes in dark places in­volving motion. Shooting his roll downtown, Junior Satya Bhabha captured half a minute of bustling street life near Lake Shore Drive and Jackson. It was really late at night, past midnight on the night before the photos were due," Satya reflected. "It was a big sur­prise to see the contact sheet. I captured something that's impossible to see. My fa­vorite thing in the picture is that you can see the cars stationary as well as see the light through them. I like the ghostly effect with long exposures."

Convention delegates tackle diverse issues
By Nick Epstein
C onsidering that 60 workshops on topics from leadership development to cre­ating a more culturally inclusive cur­riculum, 15 U-Highers and four faculty mem­bers attended the People of Color Conference in Nashville, Tenn., last week sponsored by the National Association of Independent Schools.
An estimated 10,000 high school students and 5000 faculty members from across the nations were expected to attend this year's conference, theme of which was "The Children are Our Business," Dec. 7-9.
U-High sent at least one representative from each ethnic or cultural organization.
Attending the conference for the second time, Junior Brian Rizovsky recalled his experiences from last year's conference in San Francisco. "The reason I went a second time was to fur­ther increase my consciousness and broaden my horizons as a Jew and Latino," Brian ex­plained.
"We broke up into groups and discussed our experiences in our various schools. It was like having a discussion in advisory over a con­versational assembly, everyone had something to say," Brian added.
Also attending the conference last year, Jun­ior Daphne Magaña said she came to realize the extent of U-High's diversity.
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HAVING NOT eaten in a week, Senior Mike Drew was famished one recent day. Where did he turn to fill his prescription for good eats? U.M. of course where the sandwich meat is always piled high and the pickles are always in season! When Mike finally got his sandwich he was all set to grub, but then...

JUDGING BY the CRAAAZY look in his eye, it doesn’t even look like Josh will be able to get a bite before Mike uses him as hazing practice! Mike always gets his sandwiches ordered to perfection so he is deeply offended by this heinous act of treachery and disrespect. It will only be a matter of time before Mike delivers what he sees as a fitting reprimand.

OH NO! It’s Josh Levine! Josh has a reputation for stripping people’s grub right after they purchase it. In fact, Josh has never purchased his own U.M. sub. He even took a sub from his own grandmother! Mike looks absolutely astonished! Will Mike let Josh get away with this? Now...

LUCKILY FOR Mike, Mac is nowhere near this illustration of true senior hazing. Josh’s punishment? He has to watch as Mike devours the remainder of the delicious sandwich in his face. Josh’s tummy happens to make a good seat as well. Nothing, not even a weak punk junior, is going to stop Mike Drew from downing his U.M. sub. Put one up in the win column for the seniors!!

University Market
1323 E. 57th St. ☎ (773) 363-0070
Market open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Deli open 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
The holidays are rolling in... what a sweet time it is!

Yes, gift-giving can prove tough, but at Windy City Sweets it’s, well, sweet! Come by and choose from great gift packages, homemade chocolates, fudge and more than 600 different candies! And while you’re here, why not pick up some sweets for yourself? We offer ice cream, shakes, sundaes and hot chocolate for those cold winter days!

A lover of fudge, Sophomore Nick Epstein has divine difficulty selecting from all the wonderful candies at Windy City Sweets.

Windy City SWEETS

CHOCOLATES NUTS GIFT PACKAGES
3308 N. Broadway
Chicago, Ill. 60657
(773) 477-6100

A Stressful Situation...

8th Period...

After skipping four reading assignments, Junior Jason Marsh realized he has an A.P. Meditation test... tomorrow.

At 57th St. Books...

... Luckily, 57th St. Bookstore is so close and convenient and has a wide array of books.

Where serious readers go for fun

Unfortunately, Jason doesn’t have the book he needs...

Next Week...

Jason gets his test back... and thank heavens... no, thank 57th St. Bookstore... he got an A!

Giving is the Gift...

SYDEL & SYDEL

208 South LaSalle
Chicago, Illinois 60604
(312) 332-4653

YI.. forever...

of... fudge...

Sophomore's difficulty selecting from all the wonderful candies at Windy City Sweets.

Where serious readers go for fun

Unluckily, Jason doesn’t have the book he needs...

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Giving is the Gift...
Vacations
(continued from page 2)
West, his wife Judy, and his sons Jeremy '99 and Ben, celebrate Christmas every year with an advent log. "We lay a long log out on our buffet table and line it with 28 candles," Mr. West said. "Each night we light candles for however many days have passed, so we light one the first day, two the second day and so on until on Christmas Eve we light all 28 candles."

Each night we also tell a story about Christmas. Sometimes adult neighbors come over, because they enjoy the tradition. Occasionally one of them or the kids will read a story, but for the most part it's just me who reads them.

We started the tradition fifteen years ago as something to do together as a family. My wife Judy had heard of similar traditions and we thought the idea was cool." History Teacher Susan Shapiro and her family have a special way of exchanging gifts on Hanukkah. "Each person in the family is obligated to give gifts to everyone else on a certain day," Mrs. Shapiro said. "In choosing gifts, we think a lot about what the other people in the family really want. In receiving the gift, the pleasure is about the thought that goes into the gift, not the size or monetary value, but with most of the emphasis on giving, receiving becomes almost incidental."

For Librarian Mathye Nelson and her 15-year-old twin sons, the biggest part of their holiday celebrations are their Buddhist celebrations on New Year's. "Every year we have a pajama party on New Year's Eve," Ms. Nelson said. "This started right after the boys were born. I had to stay in for New Year's Eve, because I didn't want to leave them alone, so I invited my friends over, and many of them also had babies. All the babies including the boys were in pajamas and since then, everyone has worn pajamas every year. Now the kids invite their friends over and they have virgin strawberry daquiris and the adults have Champagne. We also do Buddhist chants."

"On New Year's Day, the boys open presents that are better than their Christmas presents because they are big things that they really want, while the Christmas presents are smaller things like videos and clothes."

Midway makes 'Top 40'

Last year's Midway was among 40 high school newspapers nationwide recognized for overall excellence with Pacemaker honors from the National Scholastic Press Association. Twenty of the newspapers won the top honor, the National Pacemaker award; 20 others, including the Midway, received Pacemaker Finalist awards. "The Midway has always done well in this program in years ending in zero," said Adviser Wayne Brasler. "It won National Pacemakers in 1970, 1980 and 1990. The paper also won the National Pacemaker award in 1968, 1972, 1984, 1991 and 1994. In the years Regional Pacemakers were awarded the Midway won in the Midwest region in 1983, 1984, 1987, 1990 and 1991. In all these years I've yet to figure out what the judges are looking for in this competition," Mr. Brasler said. "I've always found which papers will win totally unpredictable."

Last year's Midway was edited by Arielle Levin Becker, Bobby Stokes and Sonia Mittal, all 2000 graduates.

Baby It's Cold Outside
Warm up with some hot treats from Caffe Florian

A COZY CUP of delicious hot chocolate as only Caffe Florian makes it creates a warm pause on a hectic day for Shira Peltzman and Ken Hecht.

Don't let the cold weather bring you down. Grab a friend and warm up with some hot chocolate at Caffe Florian. Or warm up with some tasty hot potato skins or a steaming bowl of homemade soup. Baby, when you (or your baby) get cold, come warm up again at Caffe Florian! We're only a couple of blocks away from school!

Caffe Florian
1450 E. 57th St. (773) 795-4100
Open 11 a.m.-Midnight Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Friday and Saturday

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PRESENCE
Clothing, jewelry, accessories & gifts
Lincoln Park
2501 N. Clark
Andersonville
5216 N. Clark
Evanston
1631 Sherman

The Beautician and the Gentleman

On a fair November morn a young rougie knave surrendered to the constables insesant pleas to groom his bairn self. He proceeded forth to Hair Design International where he knew he could be shorn for a mintucial sum.

Course you, frappish wench! A thousand baxst upon your estate! How dare you lay your meat-bucks upon my flaxen curls.

My new hair-style is a thousand times more glamorous than before! "Quoth Ethur "Hair Design International's mystic artists of the locks have bestowed upon me a beaufont to die for! I wonder if they do manicures?

Hair Design International
1309 E. 57th St.
Phones: (773) 373-0700
Fax: (773) 363-3410

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Hoopsters start rebuilding task

By Amit Mittal
Midway reporter

Hoping to win their opening game in Kovler Gym, the varsity boys’ basketball team faces Independent School League giant First Year Math Teacher Jason Smith.

With his four-year coaching experience and with the help of his captains, Mr. Dyra, the fourth varsity coach in three years, hopes to get his team peak­ing at the end of the season.

First Year Math Teacher Jason Smith took over the j.v. coaching position this year and the team looks to rebound against Elgin Academy, 6:30 p.m. Thursday. After five consecutive losses in the Mather Thanksgiving Tournament Nov. 20-29, the hoopers looked to re­cover against St. Rita last Saturday (re­sults after Midway deadline).

According to Varsity Coach Dan Dyra, former j.v. coach, the team needs expe­rience and an identity. Seven of last year’s 10 varsity players graduated, including all five starters.

Commented Senior Ayinde Bennett, “With our new coach and new players we have to work together to get some chemistry among us. We’ve played some tough teams so we should work off of that.”

One advantage the Maroons have over last year is the new Kovler Gym. The two additional basketball courts let the team have a consistent practice schedule that allows them to have long, but early practices.

“If it’s a great opportunity to improve ourselves,” said Junior Mike McGeehee, captain with Senior Josh Musi­kantow, “There’s a better workout room where we can condition and we don’t have to wait around for hours after school just to practice for an hour. This way, we’re even able to have longer practices if needed.”

Swimmers target Latin

By Marty Kinsella
Midway reporter

Their last meet represents the first piece of business for this year’s boys’ swimmers. After 11 years as assistant coach, Mr. Paul Gunty, assistant to the associate director, has taken over as coach from Dean of Students and Fac­ulty Larry McFarlane.

The Maroons finished 3rd with 56 points in a three-team meet Dec. 1 against host Nilejs West (63) and Latin (155). The team next faces Riverside­Brookfield, away, 5 p.m. Friday.

Mr. Gunty said he plans to coach in the same fashion as Mr. McFarlane, who coached the team for 28 seasons. “Mr. McFarlane and I always treated the j.v. and varsity swimmers equally,” Mr. Gunty explained. “This year I plan to do the same, in practice and in meets.”

Filling in the assistant coaching posi­tion is Ms. Katie Vaughn, ’96 graduate, who coached junior varsity girls this fall.

Twelve members return to the team, including Senior Cocoprians Robert and Joe Sellers. The rest of the team consists of four juniors, four sopho­more and three freshman.

“I’m sure we will have more of the same swimmers from last year,” Junior Dan Hoffman said. “We know what our strengths are. Our relays were great last year and Joe Sellers should do well in the 500-free, having set a U-High record for that event last year.”

The schedule this year covers 12 more meets, the last of which is a dual meet with archrival Latin.

“Our most important meet will be against Latin,” Junior Brian Gill said. “We are out to average last year’s loss to the Romans. We’ve worked too hard not to get our revenge.”

Winter Games

Swimming against five other sports teams, the swim team is now on the record.

With the team’s season already well under way, the varsity boys’ basketball team will be ready to face Elgin Academy, 6:30 p.m. Thursday. Mr. Lacky, the fourth varsity coach in three years, hopes to get his team peak­ing at the end of the season.

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Lady ballers get in shape for title

By Annie Padrid
Midday reporter

At the sound of the buzzer the girls took off. They ran four sprints, from baseline to the baseline of the basketball court, in less than 23 seconds. For some it’s a third of a minute. But for the girls’ varsity loop squad 5-3 (2-1 ISL) it’s the difference between an Independent School League (ISL) championship and a disappointing season.

"Keeping in shape has become our key to success as the ISL season picks up," explained Senior Katie Shapiro, co-captain with Senior Tiffany Northrop. With six of nine players showing up for the Madonna Thanksgiving tournament, the team has put new emphasis on a rigorous conditioning regimen, focusing on endurance.

"We only have nine players, so if one doesn’t show for a game, we only have three subs," Katie said. "As the season progresses, our endurance will improve, but it’s early, so it’s a bit of a struggle now.”

Climbing the walls

Courses put ‘Adventure’ in sports

By Elizabeth Sipic
Sports editor

Soil ing and building trust was all in a day’s work for the 17 freshmen enrolled in Phys Ed Teacher Meghan Janda’s Adventure Education class. The students tested their mental and physical abilities on an October field trip to Cliff Oet, a wall-climbing course in South Suburban Homewood.

Although Adventure Education is a new experience for U-Highers, it’s actually part of a nationwide trend. Adventure Education incorporates such sports as kayaking and rock climbing with team and trust-building activities. Ms. Janda, who taught the first unit of the course this fall, says her class focuses on trust building.

"Once we get started the kids lose any perceptions they once had of each other," Ms. Janda said. "They begin to trust themselves and later, each other.”

Ms. Janda has also taken part in her share of team and adventure activities.

"Growing up I was always having a great time in Suburban Homewood. Climbing the walls for a game, we only have three subs," Katie said. "As the season progresses, our endurance will improve, but it’s early, so it’s a bit of a struggle now.”

Whether shopping for yourself or that special someone on your list, all types of jewelry can be found in one store, String A Strand. Just Games will give you a wild variety to choose from.

New club bowls over with spirit

By Michael Chandler
Midday reporter

Rolling across the smooth wooden planks of lane 9 at Diversey Bowl on Chicago’s North Side, a ball barrelled through all 10 pins. Sophomore John Oxtoby’s stoic demeanor didn’t waver. It was his third strike in the 10th frame and he returned to the scorer’s table which was littered with the remnants of a greasy meal. John was greeted with his friends’ raucous cheers. Sophomores Michael Stinis, Benji Fisher and Matt Rosenberg were feeling it.

At this lane, late last summer, these four boys had the idea for a Bowling Club. Finally founded earlier this school year, the club has even drawn Biology Teacher Sharon Housinger to sponsor the club. "The idea of the course has been brewing at U-High for years and came to fruition this year," Coach Janda said. "Girls at U-High know that discipline and focus are important when it comes to school work and they bring that same attitude to the court.”

After a crucial 37-27 victory over defending champion Woodlands, Dec. 6, Sophomore Sydney Lawson believes the team is on its way to a title.

"We were expecting a lot more from Woodlands," she said. "They really weren’t that good at all. Their key players have moved up to varsity, which took away their game. Coach Janda has done a great job preparing us and motivating us for our games. At this pace the title should be ours.”

Scores not previously reported.

Lady ballers get in shape for title

By Annie Padrid
Midday reporter

At the sound of the buzzer the girls took off. They ran four sprints, from baseline to the baseline of the basketball court, in less than 23 seconds. For some it’s a third of a minute. But for the girls’ varsity loop squad 5-3 (2-1 ISL) it’s the difference between an Independent School League (ISL) championship and a disappointing season.

"Keeping in shape has become our key to success as the ISL season picks up," explained Senior Katie Shapiro, co-captain with Senior Tiffany Northrop. With six of nine players showing up for the Madonna Thanksgiving tournament, the team has put new emphasis on a rigorous conditioning regimen, focusing on endurance.

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Playing the COLLEGE GAME

Grads continue sports commitments with success

By Jules Federle

Sports editor

In baseball, soccer, rugby and track, among other sports, recent U-High graduates are excelling in collegiate sports. Graduate athletes attribute their success to lessons learned at U-High, through interviews by phone.

As a U-High, Emile Cantory, ’98, played centerfield in baseball on the ’98 team that went undefeated and won the league championship.

Now a junior at the University of Chicago, Emile says he has applied lessons he learned as a former varsity baseball coach Jack Taylor in playing college baseball.

“I went to the University of Illinois at Champaign after graduating from U-High,” Emile said. “I tried to walk on their baseball team. U. of I. is a Division I school which consistently places in the top 30 for baseball. I went out and played my heart but I was cut out of the team. It was discouraging but I knew I wanted to play ball in school. I remembered all the hard work I put in and the countless hours I spent with Jack, working on my swing, my throw, everything. I wasn’t gonna give up, so last year I transferred to the University of Chicago and I started playing ball here.

“Now I start at centerfield for the varsity squad. When I came here I was really surprised at how good the players at the U. of C. were. I thought the team was gonna be a bunch of nerds, like the ones you see at the Reynolds Club, but man, these guys can really play.”

“Everyone has drive and determination like I’ve never seen before. This year’ll be especially interesting through our league. Sam Kas, ’98, a guy I’ve been playing ball with since 7th grade, transferred here this year. He’ll be awesome being able to play with him again.”

With 114 goals at U-High, Andy Rosenhend, ’99, four year varsity soccer midfielder and winner of just about every honor he could win, said he experienced a wake-up call his freshman year at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

“Adjusting to the level of play here at Wake wasn’t that difficult,” said Andy, whose Demon Deacons were consistently ranked in the top five in the nation last year. “It was a matter of getting used to the pressure and intensity here. We’re a Division I soccer school. There’s no room for screwing up, because there’ll always be someone to take your spot on the team.”

“Looking back at soccer, the thing I miss the most is the friendly competition. At U-High we’d get so pumped to play Latin or Parker, we knew the guys from Parker or Latin so the rivalries were always fun. Now it’s not about rivalries. It’s about national titles.”

Escorting in both soccer and swimming at U-High, Christina Cantwell, "I CAN’T BELIEVE all this great stuff about Cornell!" exclaimed Freshman Laurent Varlet with excitement.

The Brummells love Triple Crown because they can get anything from noodles to seafood all prepared with tender loving care. They also love the quality time they spend with each other on the way.

TRIPLE CROWN SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

665 Pasquinielli Drive ■ Westmont, Ill. 60559
Phone: (630) 794-0088 ■ Fax: (630) 794-0080
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Sports 21

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, DEC. 11, 2000

Playing the MONEY game

STATISTICS THESE DAYS in professional sports, such as home runs, touchdowns and goals scored are being replaced by cars, mansions, private jets and dollar signs. Numbers are no longer compared by their performance, but by the money they make. Sports fans almost feel sorry for the b a s e b a l l player who makes $30,000 a year because of use to the pressure and intensity here. We’re a Division I soccer school. There’s no room for screwing up, because there’ll always be someone to take your spot on the team.

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Photographing this page was pure joy. The magic of the season filled us even though it was right after Thanksgiving and all the decorations seemed a little premature. We didn’t see as much of holidays other than Christmas as we would have liked. This time of year, after all, is a time for many celebrations.”

—Juniors Satya Bhabha and Betsy Kalven who took the photos for, and produced, this page

Season’s Best

Chicago’s Loop and North Michigan Avenue become a holiday wonderland the minute Thanksgiving has finished off its last drumstick (actually, in recent years the minute the Halloween pumpkin burns its last candle). Here are the holiday moods of the Windy City in photographs by Betsy Kalven, Midway photography editor, and Satya Bhabha, executive photo editor.

Outside Crate and Barrel’s Michigan Avenue store, Tamika Jones, a Salvation Army volunteer in her sixth year, keeps the dough-nut stand warm.

Persuasive, smooth-talkin’ Emmanuel Dwayne ‘photo above) treats Abe Goldstein from Wilmette to a twinkling-toes-and-shining-wax job, well polished off.

Glamerous holiday fashions (photo below) adorn Michigan Avenue mannequins safe and warm in the winter wonderland of a Ralph Lauren window.

Happy Holidays from the Midway staff!

Sometimes the simplest decoration prove most beautiful.

It’s in the details.