

# U-HIGH MIDWAY

Volume 76, Number 7 ■ University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 ■ Tuesday, March 27, 2001

## HOW IT ALL ADDS UP (and how it all went down)

### 1 It's said the school will put a limit on classes

By Ameer Saleh  
Editor-in-Chief

With all the recent hubbub regarding time management and work overload, results of preliminary tallying of class schedules following registration shows the percentage of students taking eight classes—10 percent—has roughly stayed the same. Administrators, teachers and students have told the Midway they are unsure of what happened and what to do next.

In various faculty meetings, teachers agreed that students should be held to not more than seven courses. Although, according to guidance counselors, students cannot be denied another class, they advocate against such schedules.

"I was watching students sign up for classes at registration and many of them have chosen very difficult schedules," said Math Department Chairperson Cathy Feldman. "I don't understand it. Students complain that they have too much work but when you recommend that they lessen their class load, they don't listen."

Administrators also feel it is difficult to convince students they should limit themselves to seven classes.

"Someone put it best to me when they compared registration with being a child in a candy store," said Principal Jack Knapp. "There are so many goodies that you want and students feel like if they don't try them all then they won't be given any later."

Many U-Highers indicated they felt any attempt to limit the number of classes a student can take is misguided.

"I don't think that the administration should try to limit the number of classes students take because it depends on what type of classes they're taking," said Junior Chloe Connelly. "I also don't think that faculty and administrators should limit the classes we take because they think we won't be able to handle it on our own."



Photo by Betsy Kalven

AFTER WAITING in chaotic lines to get signatures at junior class registration, Juniors Jenny Heydemann and Julia Betley took a break to talk with Guidance Counselor Bob Bachand. U-Highers had to get signatures

from their individual subject teachers who sat at tables in Judd 126. Registration days were Feb. 28, March 1 and March 2 during lunch for next year's seniors, juniors and sophomores respectively.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

FOR SOPHOMORE Matt Wasik and others who hadn't gotten all their signatures, Guidance Counselor Ron Tunis attended registration.

### 2 Students registered last month and this is what happened

By Jordann Zachary  
Associate editor

As the number of students taking full courseloads for next year is about the same as last year, according to a Midway check of class signup lists, it seems adult concerns about student workloads so far has not yet made a significant impact.

While there has been much discussion recently among faculty and administrators on limiting courseload to five majors and two minors, many teachers believe drawing up guidelines for a general limit has proven difficult as individuals can handle different amounts of work.

Talking to students before giving advice on limits, Advisory Coordinator Susan Shapiro, history teacher, feels that some circumstances justify taking eight classes.

"Some reasons for taking eight classes might include if someone has a really strong academic record and wants to squeeze in Photojournalism or take two maths," Mrs. Shapiro said. "When we

help students plan their schedules, we look to see if a student can handle that kind of load and still have a life."

Faculty members observed that with each adult signature required for registration, approval of the courseload takes place.

"I look over everyone's schedule and make sure they are meeting requirements and are not taking on too much, in which case I would question their motives," said Guidance Counselor Bob Bachand. "With all the signatures required for successful registration, there are many people reviewing each student's schedule. I thoroughly look over every schedule I sign and see if it is an appropriate load for that person."

Some students, however, such as Sophomore Zack Turnbull, had their packed schedules approved without too much difficulty.

"I am taking eight classes next year, including Peer Leading," Zack said. "No one ever tried to dissuade me or tell me I was taking on too much."

Zach says he would have welcomed such a different perspective.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

SOPHOMORE NORA BECKER shows her signed schedule to Guidance Counselor Bob Bachand.

### 3 And the fallout for elective programs?

By Marty Kinsella  
Midway reporter

Elective programs evidently did not get any fallout from renewed interest in the school in limiting student workloads.

Classes which provide elective credits, such as journalism, always seem to survive, even when U-Highers are squeezing them into already-packed schedules, even if that means sneaking them in by registering for them in the fall.

"Through the years, no matter what was done, right down to making journalism an elective satisfying no departmental graduation credit, there has always seemed to be enough interest to keep it going and even getting bigger," said Journalism Teacher Wayne Michael Brasler. "When I heard all the talk about being strict about courseloads I thought maybe we'd get three people coming into the program next fall and that journalism might just start rolling toward an end. As it turns out, we have as many students enrolled in Beginning Journalism as last year. I'm among those who feel the school needs to take a strong hand in limiting courseloads even though I recognize what the consequences might be for a program such as journalism. For now, we still have our enrollment."

## READ ALL ABOUT IT

### The discussion continues

STUDENTS, teachers and parents share thoughts on student workload, cheating and related issues, including the possibility of an honor code.....Pages 2, 12 and 14

### Record stores can be an experience

TAKE A TRIP with the Midway to emporiums of alternative music, where the customers are as interesting as the albums...Page 7

### Tomorrow's prep school today

THE MIDWAY JOURNEYS to Northside Prep, one of the Chicago Public School system's shining showpieces, and discovers a school that can give the best private institution a run for their money (in more ways than one).....Page 8

### Drug use and drug education

NATIONALLY, drug use among high school students is down. At U-High the drug education program built carefully over many years seems down and out. What happened.....Pages 8 and 9.

### Photographer, artists and some fun

THE UPSIDE DOWN TYPE gives the answer to Photojournalist Will Mittendorf's visual guessing game and U-High's Japanimation enthusiasts share their talents.....Pages 14 and 15

### It's the Channel 5 news at 10

AND YOU ARE THERE, in the studio!.....Page 16

# 2 special report



"The environment at U-High pushes kids to be willing to go cheat; it's not right, but in the end it's an individual decision to cheat or not to."

—Junior David Goldwyn

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## Voices sound on cheating

Though some students and teachers offered proposals, where the school needs to go now that student workload, cheating and related issues have reached the discussion stage remains uncertain.

Teachers are worried about disparities between students and faculty over the nature of cheating, said Faculty Chairperson Rosa McCullagh.

"Faculty don't believe that the statistics in the Midway were exactly right, but its clear there is a problem," Mrs. McCullagh said. "What worries us is that we haven't heard students say cheating is wrong. Students say the system is flawed, so there's nothing wrong with cheating. Or there is a lot of pressure and they have to cheat to deal with the pressure. Or there is no one stopping them from cheating so why shouldn't they do it. The students not saying this is morally wrong worries us."

With almost 40 students, parents and teachers attending each of three Communications Committee meetings about cheating Feb. 28, March 7 and March 8, Communications Committee Cochairperson Dan Hoffman, junior, said that the goal of the meetings was to foster communication.

"Basically, the Communications Committee is a place where students, faculty and parents can talk, so we want every perspective and possible solution for the topics," Dan explained. "We want to come out with realistic ideas with which everyone agrees. We may not come out with a concrete solution, but we will come out with new ideas about how students and parents perceive the problem."

Students at the communications committee meetings expressed their wishes for change. Junior Class President Sam Firke said he feels the Communications Committee meetings are useful, but he also believes action is necessary.

"The bottom line is that there needs to either be an honor code or there need to be harsher punishments," Sam said. "The Communication Committee meetings have work out well, though. I think Mrs. Holbrook said it best: It is good to have everything out in the open."

While satisfied that people are thinking about the topic,



ABOUT 40 STUDENTS attended a heated discussion on cheating, following the Midway's Jan. 30 issue. Director of College Counseling Lisa Montgomery was among those who spoke.

Midway Editor-in-Chief Mike Lamb, senior, said current discussions are only the beginning.

"I'm pleased there has been a reaction and that people are taking this seriously," Mike said. "The attendance at the Communications Committee meetings shows that everyone is interested. I do think, however, that students might not be ready to change their ways and that teachers aren't ready to admit they may not know the students as well as they thought they did. Usually, you'd expect the teachers to accuse students of cheating. But here, the students are saying, 'We're cheating' and some teachers are in effect saying, 'No, you're not.' We're at a fork in the road. Is this a turning point at U-High? Or is this just a two month hiatus from the norm?"

## Dean attends conference on honor codes

U-High probably isn't ready for an honor code, but plenty of schools have them.

Discussing different honor code and honor council possibilities, Dean of Faculty and Students Larry McFarlane attended a conference sponsored by Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education at St. Andrews High School in Boca Raton, Fla., Feb. 3-5. Attended by student and teacher representatives from 17 schools around the country, all of which had honor codes or honor councils.



Mr. McFarlane

"I went to the conference because since I started this job, I've wondered what we could do to make the school more hospitable," Mr. McFarlane said. "The school where the conference was held was immaculate. The cafeteria floors looked like you could eat off of them. The biggest difference between the other schools and U-High was that those schools had a pride among their student body that our school doesn't have."

While Mr. McFarlane said the conference was informative, he also believes that U-High isn't ready for an honor code. "One concept was that we need total involvement, with dialogue between students, faculty and parents."

All stories on this page by Russell Kohn, political editor

## Lab P.A. Nominations Sought

The Lab Schools Parents' Association is seeking nominations for the positions listed below. You may nominate yourself or someone else; any Lab Schools parent is eligible. A complete description of position responsibilities and the election process is posted on the Lab Schools web site ([www.ucls.uchicago.edu](http://www.ucls.uchicago.edu)) and available in Blaine 199, or contact Phoebe Naoum as described below.

### Elected Positions

President-elect  
Secretary and Secretary-elect  
Treasurer and Treasurer-elect  
School Council Co-chairs  
(N/K-1, Lower School-3,  
Middle school-1, High School-1)

### Appointed Positions

Volunteer Coordinator  
Fundraising Coordinator  
Annual Event and Program Chairs  
(e.g. Connections,  
Innisbrook Gift Wrap,  
Rites of May)

Nominations are due by **SUNDAY, APRIL 8** and should be submitted to Phoebe Naoum by phone (773-324-2505), e-mail ([NOEFAR@aol.com](mailto:NOEFAR@aol.com)), or mail (5421 S. Cornell #6, 60615).

## Principal sees progress

### Students voice growing

With student participation in school decisions such as Student Handbook revisions as one of his main goals, Principal Jack Knapp feels progress has been achieved in involving students in different aspects of school administration.

With students on the Discipline Board, Technology Committee, and a Student Handbook revisions committee, Mr. Knapp feels he has come a long way towards his goal.

"It is important to hear the students' voice," Mr. Knapp explained. "This particularly applies to issues like the Discipline Committee, the revisions of the Student Handbook and curricular requests."

"But confidentiality is really impor-

tant. For example, if students wanted to have a new course added, they should be involved in the discussion over whether the course is added, but it's not appropriate to have them present for a discussion of personnel and funding.

"There are points where any committee needs to be completely adult."

Reexamining all aspects of school represents the ultimate goal, Mr. Knapp said.

"The goal is to have significant student influence on the issues that are important to them. If there is an area where we aren't trying to create an avenue for student involvement in the decision making processes, I'd like to know about it."

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"I'm looking forward to serving on the Discipline Board and I'm going to be as fair and objective as possible."  
 -Junior Claire Stewart  
 newly-appointed Discipline Board representative



## New dean ready to tackle role

By Jules Federle  
 Associate editor

With more student participation in the decision-making process, better use of technology, an improved senior year experience and student overload among the issues she'd like to address, the school's newly-appointed Academic Dean, Math Teacher Cathy Feldman, is hoping to make significant progress for the school in her new position.

Ms. Feldman was selected from four candidates by a faculty-student interview committee chaired by Dean of Students Larry McFarlane. The committee made their recommendation to Principal Jack Knapp, who reported the decision to Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz. The decision was announced March 7.

Ms. Feldman is looking forward to her new role.

"I would like to work on a couple things," she said. "I'd really like to develop the Curriculum Committee, I'd like to see more student input in that committee."

"I'd also like to see more big agenda topics like how to better use the technology we already have. The curriculum committee is a great vehicle for discussion between students, faculty and admin-

istrators. I'd like to try to make it even more effective.

"Another thing I'd like to do is review senior year and ways we can make the last few months more worthwhile. I've read about schools which allow seniors to do huge group projects. I'd like to look into doing something like that at U-High."

Students feeling overburdened is another area Ms. Feldman will look at.

"One of the things I'd like to address is the problem that U-Highers have regarding too much stress," she continued. "I do understand that the courses at U-High are quite rigorous but at the same time student need to be honest with themselves."

"Sometimes students overburden themselves. They don't make realistic choices in terms of the number of classes they take. There are a lot of solutions out there. We need to look at all the perspectives."

Ms. Feldman said she is realistic about just how much can be accomplished.

"I understand that no plan, for anything, is perfect," she said. "What works for one school might not work for another."

"We have to be realistic and understand that if something doesn't work we can still fix it. Everything should be open to change."

"We just have to find what works the best for U-High."

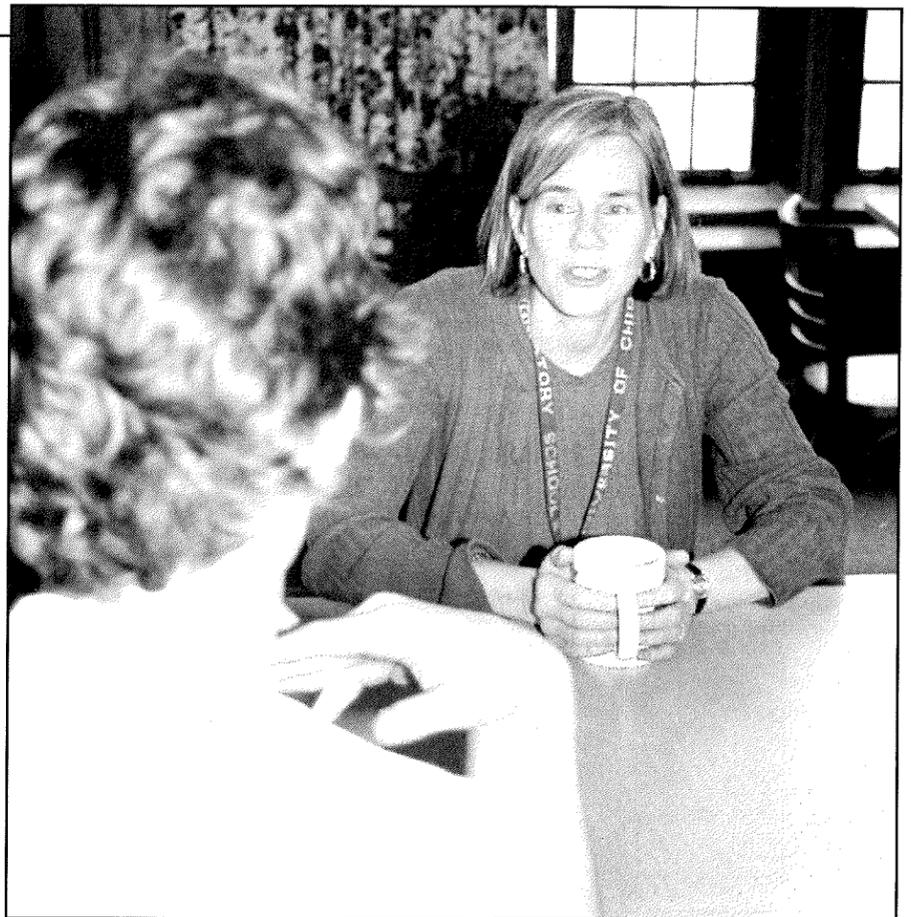


Photo by Shubra Ohri

**U-HIGHERS SAY** they will miss Ms. Cathy Feldman as a math teacher in the classroom but are happy she was chosen as Academic Dean. Here Ms. Feldman chats with J.A. Redfield about a favorite subject for both, math.

### Board gets freshmen

Replacing Seniors Tiffany Northrop, Hannah Lantos and Jo Budzilowicz on the Discipline Board for this quarter, Freshmen Laura Oxtoby and Noor Shawaf were elected by their class just before spring break began. The Board's charter provides for freshmen to join spring quarter and the senior representatives to leave. Junior Claire Stewart was also elected to join classmates Mike McGehee and Chris Amos to fill the third vacated position.

## Peer Leaders to attend learning conference in Denver

By Jessica Fridstein  
 Midway reporter

Participating in programs and presenting their own program, Peer Leaders will attend the National Service Learning Conference, April 4-7 in Denver.

The conference draws high school and college students, teachers and government groups from across the nation, with delegates presenting programs.

The conference is sponsored by the National Youth Leadership Council.

Juniors Nikita Barai and Nicky Singh and Community Learning Coordinator Susan Sheldon will present a program about Peer Leading, including service learning and establishing relationships with the community. They have titled it "Education Beyond the Classroom Walls."

U-Highers have attended the confer-

ence for the past eight years and have brought back ideas for new projects such as "Feed the Flame," and "Empty Bowls," which benefit hunger sites.

A proposal to the faculty from Peer Leaders Tiffany Northrop and Hannah Lantos, seniors, to follow up this quarter a schoolwide diversity workshop conducted three years ago was returned by the faculty at its Feb. 6 meeting. Faculty members felt the idea needed better planning to ensure a positive reception from the student body.

"Since the students who have been in charge of this are graduating this year, someone needs to take over the project," Ms. Sheldon said.

"We haven't really discussed who will do it at this point. We are hoping someone will take an interest in following through with it."

## Speaker to discuss what it's like being multiracial at assembly

By Jordan Rummel  
 Midway reporter

Are you confident in knowing your race? You may think so, but what if you were to find out that you had some blood in you that you didn't know about? Some U-Highers may find a way to answer this question or learn what it is like being multiracial at an assembly Thursday, April 5, sponsored by the faculty's People of Color Committee. An after-school program will be presented for the faculty.

The assembly and faculty program will feature Ms. Ilana Kaufman, a U.S. History teacher at Lick-Wilmerding High School in San Francisco, Calif., who has developed multicultural teaching programs and curricula for colleges, professional development programs and independent school or-

ganizations.

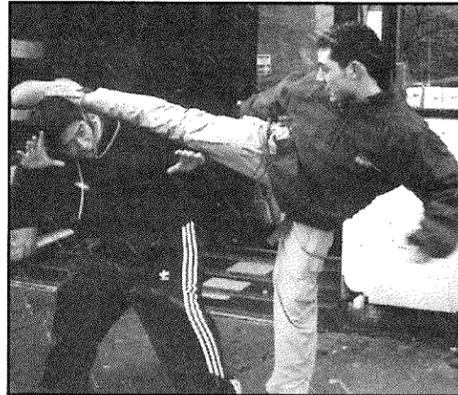
Ms. Kaufman was invited to speak by Middle School Humanities Teacher David Harris.

"I saw Ms. Kaufman present the results of a study on multiracial kids at the People of Color conference a few years ago," Mr. Harris said. "I was impressed with her results, and since then we have been trying to arrange for her to speak at the school."

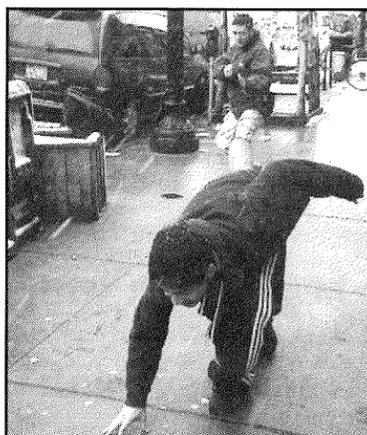
Through the assembly the People of Color Committee hopes to help multiracial students affirm their heritage and inform others about being multiracial, Mr. Harris said. Ms. Kaufman will speak with multiracial students about how different it is not being of one race.

In the faculty program Ms. Kaufman will speak to teachers about their views on multiracial students and issues.

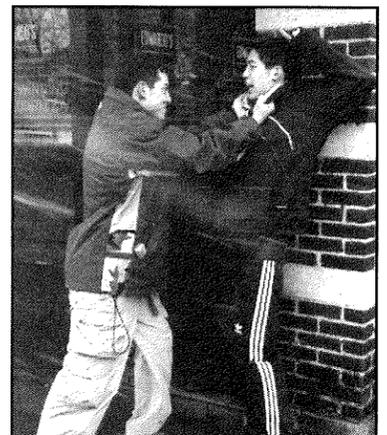
## 57th Street Kung Fu



**Locked in Mortal Kombat, Dan Levine and Jackson Cheung fight over where to spend a double lunch.**



"YEH, that's right, Jackson, we're going to Edwardo's 'cause I love that freshly-made Chicago-style deep dish pizza, Plus they deliver!"



"Chill Dan, fine, I'll buy you a great Chicago-style Edwardo's pizza. But next time we'll get it delivered."



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U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001



"The lockin was a tremendous success. Everything went smoothly, as we had hoped. We showed the people who ended the tradition of lockins in 1998 that we were mature enough to handle the responsibility."  
—Junior Class President Sam Firke

## For President Bush

# Mixed marks

By Abigail Newman

Associate editor

While new President George W. Bush's policy on Iraq receives good reviews from U-Highers, many in the U-High community don't support his domestic plans. Several liberal U-Highers said they felt surprised when they agreed with Bush's policy on Iraq.

Although Junior Carolyn Nelson disagreed with Bush's decision to bomb Iraq, she supports his firm policy.

"I agree with Bush's hard line position on sanctions," Carolyn said. "I don't think we should compromise with Saddam Hussein as long as the sanctions are sensitive to the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi citizens who shouldn't be harmed. Bush's position is necessary for keeping security in the Middle East. However, I don't think we should be bombing them."

Despite support for his foreign policy, Bush's domestic plans including his tax cut receive negative feedback.

Mr. Clem Balanoff, former six-year

state representative and father of Freshman Clem, feels that Bush's tax plan only helps rich Americans.

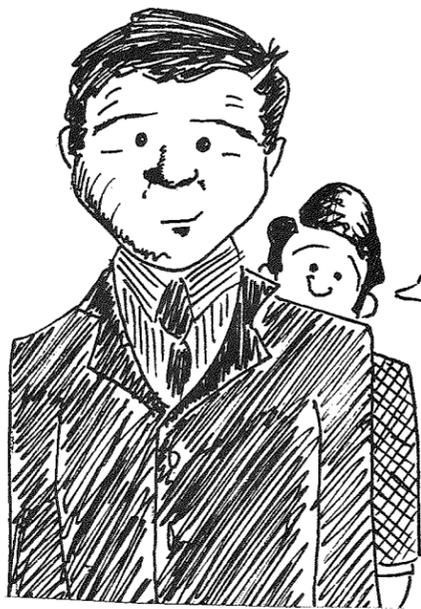
"Bush wants to give the wealthiest of the wealthy a tax break," Mr. Balanoff said. "We need to pay down the debt. There should be more money for education and health care. I can't think of one thing he's done that's any good."

After watching Bush's address to Congress Feb. 27, History Teacher Diane Puklin said she was intrigued by the image he has created for himself.

"I thought his manner was collegial and friendly," Ms. Puklin said. "He projects himself as laid back and easy to work with. His whole demeanor as a non-intellectual is well-crafted."

"It's a way of marketing himself because Americans have a long tradition of being against anything intellectual. He made a very troubling statement, though. He said he was going to rely on tests as a basis for measuring children's learning. He responded to the problem of teaching for a test by saying that's what the test should be testing and dismissing the problem."

READING IS WHERE EDUCATION BEGINS. WITHOUT READING SKA-HOOL DOES NOT SKA-HOOL?!? WHAT IN SAM-DANG HELL IS THAT S'POSEDA MEAN?!?



THAT'S 'SCHOOL,' SIR.

Art by Joe Sellers

## Brief-ly: Juniors will head for class retreat

Heading to the Resurrection Center in suburban northwest Woodstock Wednesday, April 18-Friday, April 20 juniors will set out to build class unity at their retreat. Small groups will share their about thoughts and people important in their lives.

"Junior Retreat will be an ideal time for us to bond," said Junior Class President

Sam Firke. "As a class we realize that we will make some important decisions in our lives during the next year and unity as a group will make us stronger."

After an entire night of dancing, movies, basketball, indoor soccer, badminton and volleyball, 67 juniors left Sunny Gym Saturday morning, March 3, following the first

lockin since 1998.

"The lockin was a tremendous success," Sam said. "Everything went smoothly, as we had hoped. We showed the people who ended the tradition of lockins in 1998 that we were mature enough to handle the responsibility."

■ **ALL THAT JAZZ**—Traveling to Knox College in downstate Galesburg, the Jazz Band competed at the Rootabaga Jazz Festival March 10. Judged by professional musicians including famed vocalist Kurt Elling, the U-Highers received positive comments on their performance and talent. Actual results had not yet been learned at Midway deadline.

"We thought that it would be a good idea to bring a vocalist, Lisa Jacobson, since Kurt Elling is a vocalist and would be judging the festival," said Mr. Dominic Piane, the band's adviser. "He said we performed well and gave us some helpful tips."

Also competing at the 42nd annual Eastern Illinois Jazz Festival Feb. 10, in Charleston the Jazz Band received a certificate for 1st prize. The U-Highers topped the 30 other Illinois high school jazz bands.

■ **BEAUTIFUL SOUNDS**—U-High musicians have been making noise recently with several others honors. Freshman Tim Sawyer won the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra's Concerto Competition last month and Junior Boyu Li participated in the Boys International Choir for Peace program for the Chinese-American Society's New Year celebration.

■ **FINALIZED**—All 12 of U-High's National Merit Scholarship semifinalists have proceeded to finalist status and are now eligible for awards. The seniors are as follows:

Sam Beiderman, Katie Bolanowski, Sylvain Lapan, Emily Roberts, Aaron Rosenberg, Jeremy Schmidt, Lauren Shaw, Katie Spielberger, Mike Stern, Richard Townsend, Sam Walsh and Kohki Yamaguchi.

■ **VISITORS**—A dozen exchange students from Germany will become U-Highers for the coming month, living with school families and becoming acquainted with the city and American life. An architectural walking tour Friday is among planned activities.

Four Middle School students also are visiting as part of the program.

The U-High visitors and their hosts, in that order, are as follows:

Gregor Steinhagen, Amy Aschliman; Susanne Spigatis, Sara Azarmi; Patricia Precup, Mairead Ernst; Mario Knorr, Sam Gershman; Matthias Rothacker, Mikhail Ginzburg; Paul Rupek, Baker Gregory; Nora Loges, Ashleigh Guntz; Yvonne Boose, Julia Halpern; Thomas Schachtner, Lisa Jacobson; Zenzi Huber, Andy Jeninga; Anna Steinbeck, Nicole Rosner; and Julia Fichter, Natalie Vokes. Arriving later will be Anna Bosbach, staying

with the family of Benjamin Bohlman; Philipp Stute, Martin McCullough; and Mariko Winkler, Alison Leff.

■ **AIDS RIDER**—Planning to bicycle for six days and 600 miles, Senior Katie Tully expects to join a projected 1,700 other bikers will travel from the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul in Minnesota to Chicago in the Tanuery's Heartland AIDS Ride July 9-14. Benefitting people with AIDS care needs in Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin, the project requires each participant to find sponsors and raise a required pledges.

"I need to raise \$2,500, so I sent a letter to all my family and friends," Katie said. "I got a brochure about the ride and I read through it and I was very moved. To train I have gone to the workout room and rode the stationary bike for a month and I've been taking spinning classes. I am doing this for many reasons. I decided to do this because I'm in a position where I can really focus on it all."

■ **APOLOGIES**—Credits for two Midway staff members were inadvertently omitted in the past two issues. For the Feb. 20 issue Jordann Zachary should have received credit for producing the Valentines page and for the Jan. 30 issue Claire Stewart credit for the back page ad photos.



Photo by Kristin Reepmeyer

## Peace talks

**SPEAKING ABOUT HER** experience in the Peace Corps during an assembly for juniors March 7 in Judd I26, Lower School Teacher Terra Ellingson described her work in Belize from 1987-1989 as a teacher trainer. Lower School Teacher Maureen Ellis, mother of Senior Jo Budzilowicz, spoke about her daughter Clarice's work with the Peace Corps in Guyana.

# Congratulations

★  
Mrs.  
Cathy  
Feldman

★  
Wishing you all the best of luck with  
your new position as Academic Dean!

The  
Saleh  
Family  
Foundation

"In order to test well, I feel the need to spend time on test prep, even if it is reflected in my grades."  
—Junior Josh Levine



## Committees working on school evaluation

By Jessica Heyman  
Midway reporter

**E**xamining aspects of the school's programs and constituencies, faculty members are preparing reports within 17 committees—some including parents—assessing Lab Schools' strengths and challenges for an Independent Schools Association of Central States (ISACS) self-evaluation.

A cooperative accreditation agency for private schools, ISACS recommends that schools conduct an evaluation every seven years.

The first step of the process consists of a self-study. In the second step a visiting team of educators compares what the school says it does to what it actually does.

After receiving recommendations from the team, the school responds, documenting how it will put them into effect. The Lab Schools team will visit in October.

Committee reports are due the end of the school year. Departments will submit their reports next fall.

All major recommendations in the last evaluation, completed in 1994-95, have been addressed, said Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz.

"The team asked that we have a written curriculum. We do," Ms. Katz

said. "They asked for better orientations for new students and parents. We started some.

"They wanted more ways for students to get together, both within their grade and schoolwide. We started advisories and assemblies for students to see more of each other, but we've gone a step beyond by evaluating their success and trying to reform them.

"A more difficult problem to solve is communication within the school. That will take a while to solve, but I think we've made a good start with the Communications Committee.

"The only major recommendation left undone is renovating the science labs, which we're raising funds for right now."

In the past, the ISACS evaluation was conducted concurrently with a similar evaluation for the North Central Association of Central States, an accreditation coalition for midwestern high schools.

The format of the NCA study has been changed, according to Mr. Paul Gunty, associate to the assistant director and ISACS self-study steering committee cochairperson with Lower School Teacher Maureen Ellis. It will be conducted separately in the 2002-03 school year. Schools now select three areas of focus, with departments determining strategies for improving students' capabilities in those areas.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

## Smashing Success

A LOT OF SMASHING programs won enthusiastic response at Arts Fest, Feb. 21, none more than "Smashin' Junk," presented by Ethan Stillman and Ryan Sturgill. The program involved U-Highers smashing junk, literally, with a large hammer in the Senior Lounge. The program was among 80 offered, including clay working, bag-making, hip-hop culture and cartooning. Classes were replaced all day by Arts Fest workshops and attendance was high. The smasher in the photo is Max Schleusner.

## SAT discussion makes waves

By Marty Kinsella  
Midway reporter

With the University of Illinois chiming into a growing national debate on the worthiness of Scholastic Aptitude Test scores in college admissions, U-Highers have joined the discussion.

The SATs became big news when University of California systems President Richard C. Atkinson proposed to his education board that SAT scores be eliminated as an admission consideration beginning with the 2003-2004 school year.

His goal would be reducing what he judges as detrimentally growing emphasis on test-taking at the expense of quality education in high schools.

The proposal rated a cover story in Time Magazine and extensive coverage and commentary in the nation's leading newspapers.

"Time involved during school was not aimed at developing students' reading, writing and mathematical abilities by high school teachers, but rather their test-taking skills," Dr. Atkinson wrote in his proposal to the University of California education board after observing several high schools and their programs.

SATs would not be entirely eliminated under Dr. Atkinson's proposal.

The university would still use scores from the SAT IIs, a collection of tests designed to evaluate knowledge in a certain subject for their admission purposes.

Guidance Director Patty Kovacs explained the difference of the two exams for the Midway.

"The SAT IIs are different from the SAT Is in that they test academic achievement while the SAT I tests aptitude," she said, adding, "The SAT II

is, however, flawed as well.

"Both tests are biased financially and economically.

"A test like the SAT I is often a limited measure of how a student will do academically at a school. Removing it would help lift some biases in the application process, but presently there is no real solution to the problem."

Many U-Highers would welcome less emphasis on the SATs.

"It would be nice not to have to take the SAT Is," said Junior Josh Levine, who has taken three SAT preparation courses already.

"But with getting into college being so competitive, I really have no other choice. So in order to test well, I feel the need to spend time on test prep, even if it is reflected in my grades.

"The classes, although time consuming, I believe will definitely help me when I take the test."



Photo by Betsy Kalven

## Going around

TO AN ENTHUSIASTIC reception, Student Experimental Theatre presented its annual production Feb. 22-24. In "Ferris Wheel," Chris Perez and Ruth Bistrow meet on one and start a conversation.



## Treats of the town

MORE THAN 600 people turned out for the Parents' Association's "Connections" benefit March 3 in Kovler Gym. An estimated \$200,000 was raised to benefit science lab renovation. An array of famous Chicago dining spots provided samples at colorful booths against a painted city skyline. The Musikantow family bid successfully for the "Principal for A Day" prize and the Heydemann family for "Dean For A Day."

Photo courtesy Mr. Bill Harms of University of Chicago News and Information

### Just Can't Get Enough!

For a lunch treat that will keep you smiling all afternoon, drop by Kikuya for Japanese specialties sweet to your tum tummy and kind to your wallet. We're just a few minutes from school. Bring some friends!

## Kikuya

Japanese Cuisine

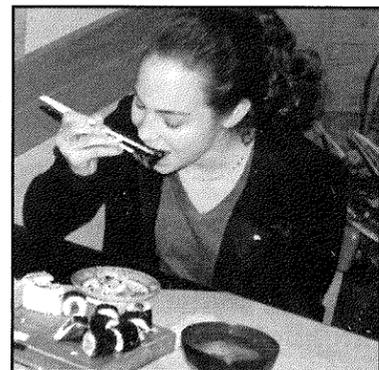


Photo by Jennifer Sydel

WHETHER IT'S the delicious Tekka Maki or tasty Miso Soup, Kikuya's Japanese cuisine can't be beat. It sure brings Toby Shaw and her friends back again and again.

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Delivery and Carryout

# 6 group efforts



"At first we thought about dispelling some of the rumors behind the Irish peoples; but then we scrapped that idea and decided to embrace Irish culture."

—Junior Nik Lund

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## Assemblies big projects

### Clubs feel efforts prove worthwhile

By Nora Becker

Midway reporter

For two weeks, the real question the Jewish Students' Association had about a Holocaust assembly was whether there would even be one.

When clubs decide to sponsor assemblies they often have to face tough choices, leaders say.

"Some people in JSA worry that the Holocaust is the only thing people identify with Judaism," said Senior Hannah Lantos, JSA vice president and planning committee cochairperson with Senior Dan Solow, JSA president. "We want people to see not only remembrance of the Holocaust but also the fun, celebratory side of Judaism."

The assembly will take place Wednesday, April 18 at Mandel Hall.

Featuring performers from About Face Theater for the third consecutive year Wednesday, April 25, Gayla is hoping to educate the student body about gay rights issues.

"It was relatively easy to prepare for this assembly," said Senior Hannah Garber-Paul, Gayla president with Senior Joyce Li. "About Face Theater does outreach to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth by taking their performances to schools and educating students about the issues; this year the subject is gay marriage."

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. assembly, sponsored by the Black Students' Association, is the oldest club sponsored assembly. It includes songs, poems, and speeches presented by members of other school clubs. Another BSA sponsored assembly, the Kwanzaa assembly, educates students about the African holiday.



Photo by Betsy Kalven

ADMIRING MARTY KINSELLA's colorful bead necklaces Becca Nichols catches the lighthearted feeling at the French Club's Mardi Gras celebration Feb. 27 in the cafeteria

"For the MLK assembly the entire BSA worked really hard," said Senior Nikiyah Barnes, BSA president. "I had total strangers come up to me and say how moved they had been. On the other hand, for the Kwanzaa assembly we weren't as prepared and so response to that was mixed. It is incredibly hard to plan a good assembly because we are all so critical of each other. It's better for a club to sponsor one great assembly that really gets a message across than four not so good ones."

Planning an assembly alone can be enough work, according to Junior Maemie Chan, ASA secretary, who helped plan the annual Diwali assembly.

"It was so hard to find the time to get everyone together to plan and practice for the Diwali assembly," she said. "At times it was frustrating, but I think it was a successful assembly and that everyone got a lot out of it."

Hannah Garber-Paul believes promoting awareness and celebrating, whether about current issues, history or holidays, should be the overriding goal of club sponsored assembly.

"Part of Gayla's mission statement is to educate the school community," Hannah Garber-Paul explained.

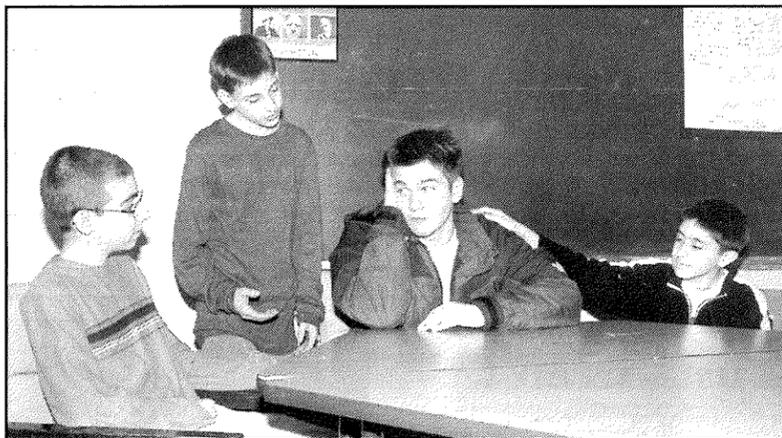
"By doing that we can help create a more tolerant environment for everyone. I think that the assemblies provide a perfect opportunity to do that."

"Besides, it's good sometimes to make people stop working and think about something other than school and their own lives."

## A Friend in Need...

What's goin' on guys? What'd you wanna talk about?

**Hal, you know that we all care about you, and, well, we're very concerned**



Photos by Emma Barber

**Basically, Hal, your hair is ridiculous.**

What should I do, fellas?

**Get help Hal. Go to Hair Design International. The stylists there can do wonders. They do highlights, coloring, or just simple haircuts and all for affordable prices. Go now!**



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## Clubs ready final efforts

By Amit Mittal

Midway reporter

As they move towards the home stretch, Math Team, Model U.N., Science Club and Chess Team prepare for much-anticipated last competitions.

Defending and improving upon last year's 2nd-place finish at the Illinois State Math Tournament sponsored by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Math (ICTM), April 29 at Illinois State University in downstate Normal, the Math Team is fine-tuning its preparation.

With the North Suburban Math League (NSML) finals March 1 at Evanston Township High School highlighted by a 2nd-place finish in the oral competition by Senior Kohki Yamaguchi, U-Highers placed a nonofficial 32nd out of 55 competitors. Last year the Maroons placed 14th.

The team went on to finish 1st at ICTM Regionals, Feb. 24 at North Central College in Naperville. U-High also placed 1st last year.

"After placing 1st in Regionals, the State ICTMs are all we're going to be preparing for," said Math Teacher Shirley Holbrook, head coach. "Now that everything else is done with, we have time to focus and prepare for the state competition."

Representing India in the United Nations General Assembly, Mali in the Security Council, and the Republic of China in the Historical Security Council, Model U.N.ers traveled to New York City over spring break, where they competed in the National High School Model United Nations Conference. The conference ended after Midway deadline.

Finishing 1st in the Regional World Wide Youth in Science and Engineering Academic Challenge (WYSE) competition, Feb. 22, at Prairie State College in south suburban Matteson and 4th in the Regional Science Olympiad competition March 3 at Northeastern Illinois College on the North Side, the Science Club has been preparing by studying upcoming topics and testing different designs for the Engineering section of the upcoming competitions.

Following Sectionals of the WYSE Academic Challenge, March 23 (completed after Midway deadline), Science Team members are preparing for the State Science Olympiad competition Saturday, April 7 at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Team members believed they could have done better to get there.

"We were so close to being 3rd at Science Olympiad," says Junior Beckett Sterner, event coordinator for the Science Olympiad and WYSE competitions. "We were only off by half a point and I really think we could've gotten it. There were so many places to get that one point. The most frustrating part is that some of our building activities got disqualified and we did not get those participation points. But, we're still moving onto the State competition so it's not a big deal."

After their only two losses, both to De LaSalle, the Chess Team ended its season 8-2 as East Division Champions in the Chicago Chess League.

Though they placed 3rd at the Single A State Championship, March 3 at Olympia High School in downstate Perkin, the team was still pleased in defeating the Gold Team from U-High Normal, last year's state champions. Chess Team President Sam Walsh, senior, ended the tournament undefeated on the 1st board and led his team to 3rd place. After practicing every lunch and sometimes after school, the U-highers went into the Chicago Chess League Tournament, March 17 at St. Ignatius.

## New clubs beckon devotees

By Natalie Bekkouche

Midway reporter

From polo to politics, new clubs at U-High offer something for everyone.

Hoping to impart knowledge about Ireland and Northern Ireland, the Irish Students Association led by Juniors Nik Lund and Rachel Lee with faculty adviser Rosa McCullagh, math teacher, will share Irish-American culture.

In the Culinary Club, Junior Erik Voit and Faculty Adviser Jason Smith, math teacher, will teach about different cultures, cook and eat.

Escaping in the outdoors, Sophomore Spencer Lazar and faculty adviser Meghan Janda, phys ed teacher, have founded the Rock Climbing Club.

While learning strategies and paddle grips, the Ping Pong Club, led by Seniors Jeremy Schmidt and Ricky Townsend with faculty adviser John O'Connor, English teacher, hopes to

take a field trip to Chinatown for a Chinese National Team Exhibition Tournament.

The Water Polo Club, led by Sophomores Jorn Cheney and Zach Frey with faculty adviser Paul Gunty, assistant to the associate director, plan to compete.

Discussing Constitutional rights and political issues, the Young Conservatives Club is led by Junior Eitan Kensky and faculty adviser Andrea Martonffy, history teacher.

Uprising, led by Freshman Vera Mirkina and faculty adviser William Balan-Gaubert, history teacher, will discuss political issues including Anarchism, Socialism and Communism.

More clubs are being discussed.

"Clubs are great because they give kids an opportunity to discuss important topics," said Assistant to the Principal Tom Minelli. "They also give kids the chance to promote these topics."

"Since music isn't the type of product that I need to touch in order to buy, I go on-line. Plus, you can listen to samples on-line which few stores will allow you to do with specific C.D.s."

-Junior Julia Betley



U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001



Photo by Jessica Naclerio

AMONG CHICAGO'S record stores, Clubhouse on Clark offers a variety of punk, ska and other music which Molly Walsh and Vera Mirkina browse.

## Hip hoppin' around

By Nick Hill

Associate editor

Posters cover the walls and vinyl ranging from Trance and Dance to Hip Hop and Jungle fills crates in Gramophone at 2663 N. Clark St. Customers rummage through records as they bob to the rhythm of the music played by the in-store DJ.

Salespeople pace to and fro helping, stocking and talking throughout the store. Lines form behind record players spinning music for customers listening before they buy.

Since 1969 Gramophone has served D.J.s, underground music fans, and other customers.

"We're a specialty store, we sell a large variety of music, but there is a lot of music that we don't sell," said Store Manager Joe, who wouldn't give his last name. "We don't really tend to carry a lot of gangster rap. We tend to have alternative forms of rap like your Talib Kwelis and your Prince Pauls."

With a large array of C.D.s, tapes and vinyl, Gramophone's selection seems as diverse as its staff and its customers.

"Everyone in the store specializes in a particular type of music," Joe said. "Sometimes it's hard to tell the difference from who works here and who shops here because we don't wear

name tags, but if you're looking for anything from Trip Hop to Trance and Jungle, somebody in the store can help you. Whenever we hire, we look for people with a large interest in music, but they also have to have a particular interest in a certain genre, so whenever someone walks in our store we can help them find what they are looking for."

The comfortable atmosphere, friendly salespersons and large selection are enough to lure customers from across town.

"I live in Hyde Park, but I have no problem traveling up North, because Gramophone usually has what I want," Senior Ayinde Bennett said. "I just recently got into vinyl and it's hard to find a store with a large selection, so the trip across town really doesn't bother me all that much. Plus the atmosphere of the store is homey and they carry lots of music that people have never heard of."

Back in Hyde Park, at 5210 S. Harper Ave., Dr. Wax Records provides a wide array of C.D.s and L.P.s both new and used. Dr. Wax attracts customers with its low prices.

"I used to spend like 20 bucks on a single album," Junior Michael McGehee said, "but at Dr. Wax I can get two or three C.D.s for the same price. I'd much rather give my money to smaller stores. They realize that people are tired of being taken advantage of."

## Internet

doesn't strike chord with music biz

By Daphne Magaña

Midway reporter

Despite the plethora of perks for on-line shopping, it has not become the alternative to in-store shopping for U-Highers. Sites such as *amazon.com* provide the public with ways to buy music, but they apparently have limited appeal to the public.

"If you go on-line you have to know exactly what you're looking for," Dr. Wax Manager Randy Young said, "whereas if you go to a store you can ask for assistance. And you are also allowed to see what's on the C.D. and what type of art it has to offer."

Despite the advantages of going to a music store, on-line shopping has its perks.

"Since music isn't the type of prod-

uct that I need to touch in order to buy, I go on-line," Junior Julia Betley said. "Plus, you can listen to samples on-line which few stores will allow you to do with specific C.D.s."

Some students recognize the convenience of on-line shopping, but value the atmosphere at record stores.

"I go to the store to hang out, to chill," Junior Jeremy Chavis said. "If I have my friends with me, I'm not trying to shop on-line. Stores are more or less for the atmosphere and window shopping."

Downloading is another option, but a different story. Anybody can get free music. But the sites to choose from will be limited now with Napster, a free music downloading web site, possibly facing removal of all copyrighted songs publishers request be dropped.

## Rockin' the scene in North Side shops

By Elisabeth Garber-Paul

Midway reporter

From Mohawks to dreadlocks of every color, Chicago's punks and others who have chosen to reject mainstream culture meet at Belmont and Clark in Wrigleyville. For them, chain stores often don't carry the music that they want. So some turn to stores such as Clubhouse and Reckless Records. Both are located near the Belmont Red Line stop.

When it opened in 1993, Clubhouse Records represented the anti-chain.

"We only sold music merchandise and not music," said Manager Azreal Spear, "because at that point stores like Best Buy and Circuit City dominated the market. Later, we began to carry local bands then small independent labels."

Clubhouse now carries a mix of mainstream and less common music.

In addition to the music, Clubhouse still carries merchandise such as patches, pins, stickers and shirts as well as tickets without handling fees to concerts at The Metro, a venue next door. Vinyl ranges from \$7 to \$15 and C.D.s from \$10 to \$15. Clubhouse is located at 3728 N. Clark St.

"I try to shop at Clubhouse," Freshman Vera Mirkina said, "because I would rather support an independent store rather than a large corporate chain."

But unlike Vera, not everyone who has similar views can easily get there. Freshman Adriana Puskiewicz, who

lives south of the city, finds it difficult to get to Clubhouse to buy her music.

"It's a pain to get to," Adriana said. "Because I have to devote a long time to go there, between the South Shore train and the CIA and to search out the music I want."

At Belmont and Broadway, a few blocks south of Clubhouse, lies Reckless Records. Carrying records, C.D.s and tapes, both new and used, Reckless offers virtually every kind of music in one place. The majority of music is independent label rock, though there is also mainstream, European imports and collectors' and rare albums.

"I like Reckless Records because of the prices and variety," Junior John Caplan said. "You can listen to the music before you buy it, and the clerks know what they're talking about."

Closer to home for many U-Highers and tucked between a flower shop and mattress store at 53rd and Dorchester, Second Hand Tunes sticks out with records sitting in the window. With videos, C.D.s, tapes and records, it offers a wide selection of favorites and old classics.

From pop stars such as Madonna to punk and indie artists including The Distillers and The Dandy Warhols, the selection constantly changes with people exchanging music. To fit everything in and discourage shoplifting, C.D. cover booklets are organized in racks while the C.D.s themselves are behind the counter.

## A taste-full poem...

When you want a great meal  
Fast, filling and hot  
Head straight to COCORICO  
It will really hit the spot!

You can get chicken, ribs  
And French Fries, too  
Roasted to perfection  
It surely will fill you!

We're not far from school  
So come right away  
Your tummy will thank you  
With delight through the day!

  
COCORICO  
ROTISSERIE

OPEN 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday,  
11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday.  
(Closed Monday.)

# 8 sights and sounds

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001



"The schedule we came up with was designed mostly based on what the department chairs had to say."  
—Northside Prep Assistant Principal Alan Mather

## It's prep, it's public

### Northside challenges private domain

By Zach Frey  
Associate editor

As music from Garth Brooks to Nirvana reverberates through the bright, spacious halls of the year-old Northside Preparatory High School at Kedzie street and Bryn Mawr avenue on the Northwest side, 750 students from diverse backgrounds casually walk to class.

With eight minutes between classes, Northside students don't have to hurry. They can even stop in the lunchroom



Photo by Will Mittendorf

**STATE OF THE ART** science labs make a complex chemistry lab possible for Senior Christie Starzel, Junior Sarah Chung and Freshman Justine Seidenfeld at Northside Prep.

and talk to friends between classes.

Music in the halls and longer passing periods constitute just part of the school's innovative feeling. The first Chicago public high school built in 20 years, Northside represents the city's attempt to offer public education to rival or better that of private schools.

Teachers were involved in the design of the school from the planning stages.

"We made it a point to ask the teachers how they wanted the school designed," said Assistant Principal Alan Mather, seated behind Principal James Lalley's desk while Dr. Lalley was downtown for a morning meeting. "The schedule we came up with was based on what the department chairs had to say.

"For example, teachers noticed that students often behave differently in the morning than the afternoon, so we have the classes that meet first period one day meet last period the next. They also commented that they didn't get enough time with students, so, each day, students have three 96-minute classes and one 48-minute class."

Rather than separating algebra, geometry, trigonometry and statistics, all four are combined into Northside's Integrated Math Program I, II and III classes. Outside of the Math De-



Photo by Will Mittendorf

**DECORATING THE HALLS** with art, Sophomore Mike Stanislawski works outside his classroom during an

**Advanced Drawing and Painting class** at Northside Prep.

partment, students engage in projects from creating an informational brochure on genetic disorders to building paper mache dragons to decorate the school.

Designed to give students a break from their usual classes and extra time to work on projects, Wednesdays start with a 40-minute advisory followed by a three-hour Colloquium which ends before noon.

"Colloquiums are like three hour minicourses, which the students sign up for each quarter," Mr. Mather said. "They meet about 11 times. We have about 30 offerings every quarter and they range from arts to academics to just things that interest the students. Occasionally we also have all school Colloquiums."

After Colloquium on Wednesdays, the computer labs and library stay open, but students are free to go home.

"It's really nice for the students to have an afternoon to do whatever they'd like," Mr. Mather said. "But we also use the time as common teacher planning time.

"Sometimes faculty feel they don't have enough time to talk to other teachers, coordinate the curriculum, and make sure they're not overworking the students, so that's what they use this time for."

Including five computers in every classroom and two computer labs with 30 computers each, Northside puts emphasis on technology.

"First quarter last year was really a

wake up call," said Aaron Kletzing, junior class Student Council representative.

"Besides the work

being more advanced, there are computers everywhere. We used to joke about walking into a bathroom one day and finding computers in there."

According to Aaron, though Student Council plans all the school's dances, usually held in the small glass fronted atriums at the top of each stairway, they plan on increasing the number of tasks they take on in the future.

"Student government plans a lot of stuff now," Aaron said. "But we still have a lot of room to grow. We mostly plan dances like our Mardi Gras dance. This year for prom we decided we'd do something different to address drinking and driving.

"So we're going to tow a few wrecked cars from drunk driving accidents into the parking lot, really freak the kids out about it, because it's really important to get the message across."

Similarly, the school itself tries to get the message across using methods other than just traditional discipline. Though the school has neither an open campus or a large space in which students can socialize, students feel they have a lot of freedom.

"We're given a lot of leeway on many issues," Junior Yvonne Slosarski said. "We have no disciplinary code. We can do pretty much anything but wear hats. If we screw around, we have to deal with getting bad grades, but they don't really reprimand us. It's already challenging, so they really don't need to discipline us."

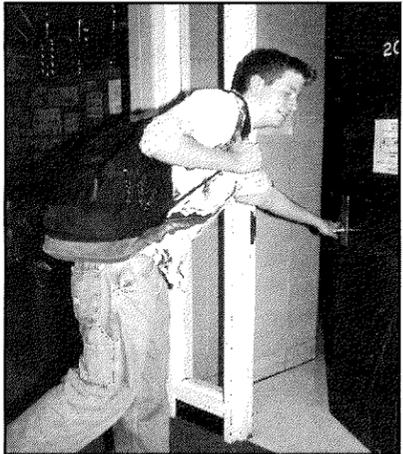


mand us."

—Junior Yvonne Slosarski

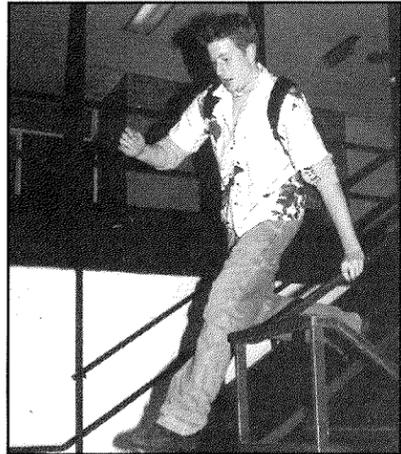
## Positively Perfect Pastries

3rd Period



**IN A RUSH**, Junior Doug Thistlethwaite hurries out of class to feed his pastry craving.

5th Period



**SLUGGISH** from his last trip, Doug stumbles to feed his second craving.

8th Period



**OVERSTUFFED**, Doug struggles to cram one final éclair into his mouth.

Rising above pastry standards Bonjour Bakery, Hyde Park's finest, delivers amazing pastries at a location close enough to get to during free periods.

Photos by Emma Barber

bakery  
**BONJOUR**  
café

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"This school is a lot more stimulating than my old school. The classes are more interesting. The atmosphere, the schedule, the teachers, it all makes you think about more than just school and letter grades."  
—Senior Allison Staiger

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:55-8:05	Advisory	Advisory	Advisory (7:55-8:35)	Advisory	Advisory
8:10-9:46	Class 1	Class 5	Colloquium (8:40 - 11:48)	Class 4	Class 8
9:54-11:30	Class 2/6	Class 2 Class 6		Class 2/6	Class 2 Class 6
11:38-1:14	Class 3 Class 7	Class 3/7	Common teacher planning time	Class 3 Class 7	Class 3/7
1:22-2:58	Class 4	Class 8		Class 1	Class 5



Ross Knorr



Photos by Jennifer Sydel

# Gotcha!!

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Sunday 9 a.m.-Midnight

# 10-11 in-depth newsfeature

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## Schools stress strong programs

As schools nationwide provide more drug education programs than ever, high school drug use nationwide has steadily decreased, according to the Parent Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE) based in Bowling Green, Ken. It conducts the nation's largest independent survey of teenage drug use. The decline began in 1997 after a five-year increase. Still, more than two-thirds of high school students used some form of alcohol or drugs in the 1999-2000 school year, according to the PRIDE survey.

Around 7.5 million students in 46 states participated in the latest survey, conducted from August, 1999, through June, 2000, according to PRIDE's web site. It asked students about their use of eight types of illegal drugs as well as alcohol and tobacco.

PRIDE Survey Director Thomas Gleaton, a retired professor who founded the survey, told the Midway by phone from his office in Bowling Green that the decline resulted from schools across the country providing more and better drug education programs and media campaigns against substance abuse.

"In recent years drug education programs at schools have begun to consist of more than just telling kids not to use drugs," Dr. Gleaton explained. "People are actually showing students research about how drugs are dangerous.

"While it doesn't scare kids away from using drugs, it makes them more aware of the damaging consequences and discourages them. Also, young people across the nation are forming their own clubs and organizations against drug use and teenagers are always more responsive to their peers than to adults." According to the survey, 68.1 percent of high school students had consumed alcohol, 43.9 percent had smoked cigarettes and 34.4 percent had used an illegal drug at some point during the 1999-2000 school year.

At Francis Parker, the North Side private school and fellow Independent Schools League (ISL) member, Upper School Counselor Gary Childrey coordinates drug education as well as all counseling and student support services for the 323 students in the 9th-12th grades.

Dr. Childrey said that because drug use has consistently proven a problem there, Parker focuses drug education programs on the Middle School and 9th grade because younger students are more easily influenced than upperclassmen.

Parker also tries to educate parents on

the dangers of drug abuse but some have their own opinions.

"Nearly 40 percent of 9th through 12th-graders at Parker reported that their parents tend to be liberal and permissive in regard to drugs and alcohol and this is a problem," Dr. Childrey explained. "Many parents feel that under certain circumstances it's okay for kids to drink and the truth is that it's not. Some parents even buy alcohol for their kids. Parents feel that since their kids are responsible around school they can be responsible around drugs, but this is usually not the case.

"Starting last year, I have taught parent courses in the evening once a week for six or seven weeks. Last year 60 to 70 parents participated. In the courses

**“Drug education programs for upperclassmen might be too little too late.”**

—Ms. Elise Brooks, Latin Upper School counselor

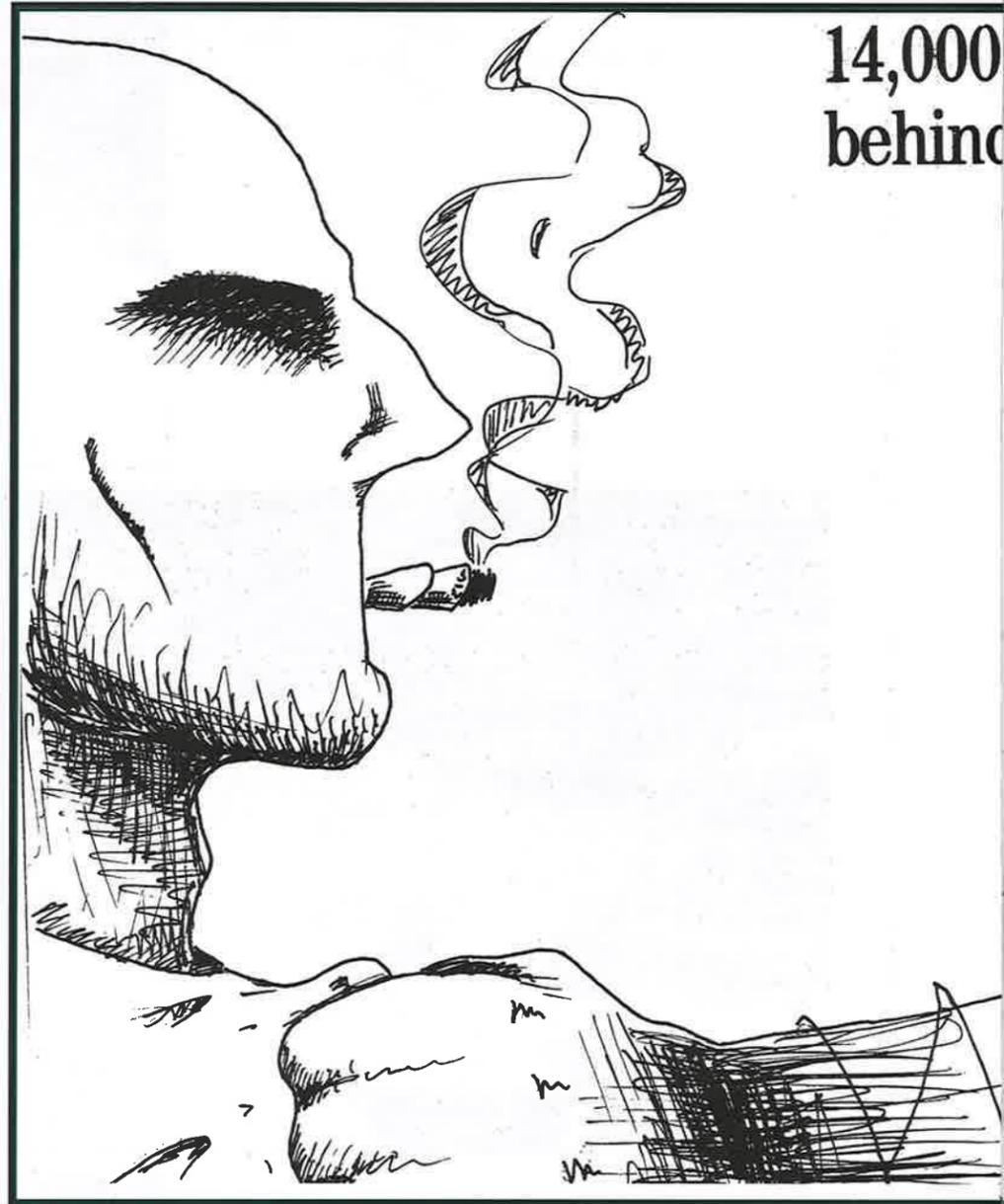
I try to educate parents on how to be firm and say no to their kids about drugs without being autocratic. We discuss research about the short- and long-term dangers of underage drinking and drug use and ways to set limits."

Seniors nationwide used all drugs except for inhalants and steroids more than any other grade. According to the PRIDE survey, nearly three quarters of all 12th graders consumed alcohol, nearly half smoked cigarettes, and over 40 percent used an illegal drug.

At the Latin School of Chicago, another North Side private school and ISL member, Upper School Counselor Elise Brooks coordinates drug education for all roughly 400 9th through 12th graders along with two other counselors.

"We focus drug education in the 9th grade because the earlier in a kid's development you provide drug education the better," Ms. Brooks said. "Drug education programs for upperclassmen might be too little too late. All freshmen at Latin are required to take a seminar that deals with making good nonacademic decisions including drug use.

"The class is discussion-based and focuses on social and emotional aspects of drug use such as refusal skills and how to avoid involvement with drugs. The class also uses videos, current events and outside speakers. I have gotten positive feedback from kids who say the class was an eye opening experience by exposing them to new aspects and dangers of drug use."



14,000 behind

## Reorganization keys pr

While the school has yet to replace Mr. Chuck Klevgaard, former substance abuse education coordinator, administrators are hoping that a shift in academic counseling, from counselors to advisors, will help allow counselors to rebuild the drug education program.

After many years at U-High, Mr. Klevgaard left to take a fulltime position elsewhere almost two years ago. While his program had its ups and downs, the end of his tenure here concluded with a survey showing a significant drop

in substance abuse in almost every category, according to a StudentView survey of all U-Highers done three years ago by an institute based at the University of Michigan.

As the school continues its search for a replacement, counselors reassert that a substance abuse education coordinator is still necessary. The fact that the job is only parttime creates a smaller applicant pool, but administrators said advertisements in newspapers as well as searches at conferences have yielded

few applicants and only one resume that has been seriously considered.

Some U-Highers, however, say that no matter what movie they are forced to see or what speaker they are dragged in to hear, they already know it won't change their minds. According to Guidance Counselor Ron Tunis, though, the school needs to provide such resources regardless of the gripes students might have.

"The students, especially juniors and seniors, have made it clear that they just don't want to hear it," he explained. "We still have to get the message across that students can be 'cool' and have fun without getting involved with drugs or alcohol. If we just help one student decide to not drink or do drugs, then we can feel good about what we've done."

In fact, according to a Midway survey of 153 seniors and juniors, (freshmen and sophomores were not surveyed because some court rulings have advised against involving younger students in drug surveys) 61 percent said the school did enough to educate students about substance abuse. That figure might not tell the whole story, though, because any-

Spread produced by Editors-in-Chief Michael Lamb and Ameer Saleh with additional reporting and writing by Ben Zimmer, Sim Khalidi and Michael Chandler



Ben Monaghan senior

"I don't think Lab does drug education too well, because all they do is bring in addicts who are fine now. All that is showing us is that you can do drugs and turn out fine. Also, I can't remember any seminars, so that shows how much they affected me, if they did at all."



Hal Woods junior

"I don't think anything they've done has had an impact on me."



Sonia Sharma junior

"I think in Middle School, the school went about it the wrong way, because they just presented statistics. But I think so far the individual speakers in High School have been somewhat effective."



Andrea John sophomore

"We have a drug education program here?"

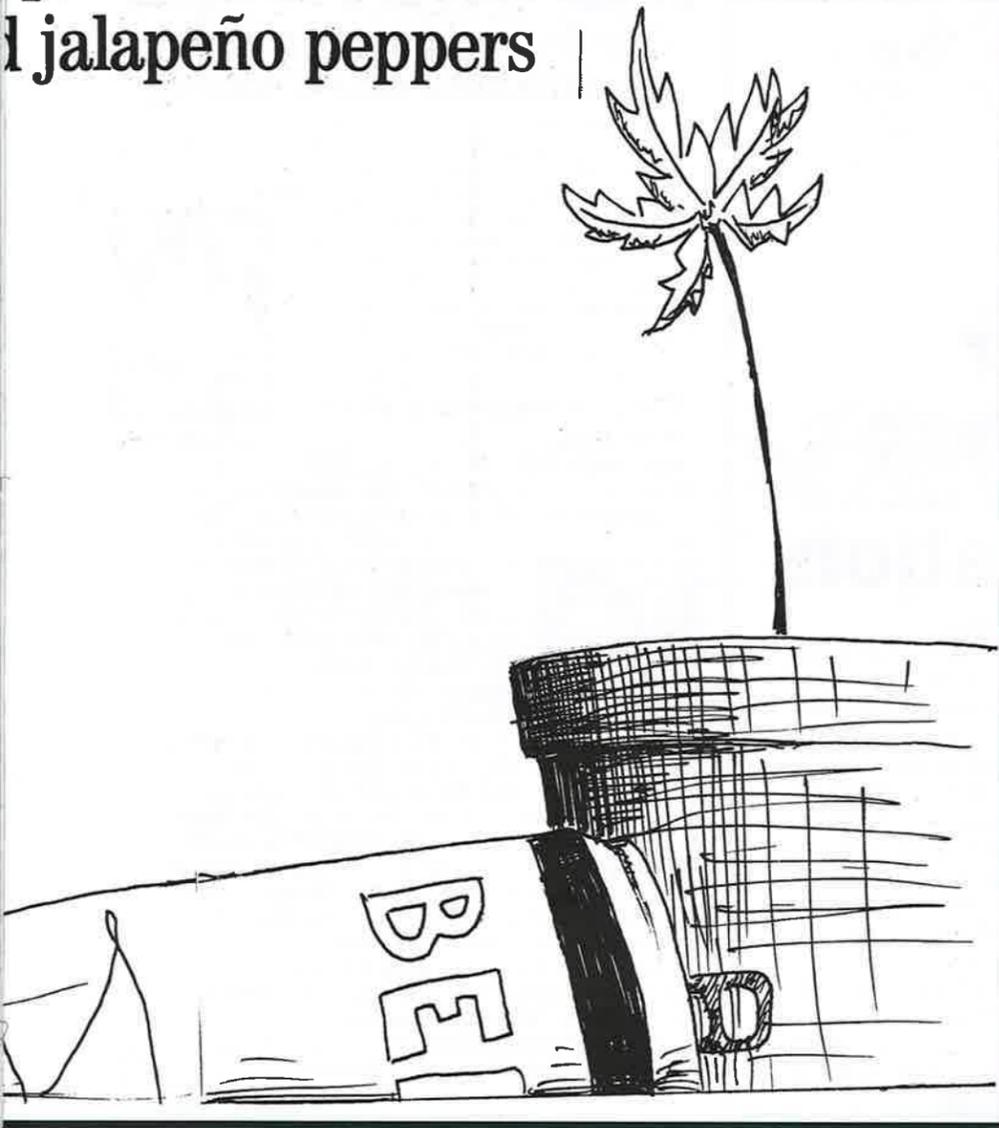
What you th  
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drug e  
tion pro

"I like to say, 'In a school with a great counseling office, you don't know what's going on in the counseling office.' This is, in part, because of the element of confidentiality, but more importantly because those problems get solved."  
 —Principal Jack Knapp



# drug education

## pounds hidden jalapeño peppers



Art by Joe Sellers

## Program rebuilding here

thing the school does is viewed by some students as too much already.

While marijuana use dropped by 50 percent from 1994-98, according to the survey three years ago, U-High still remained above the national norm. In the Midway's survey, 65 percent of those surveyed said they had smoked marijuana in high school, while 39 percent said they had done it in the past month.

With 82 percent of the Midway's poll saying they had consumed alcohol in the past six months, the figure is not far from the national PRIDE survey's findings of about 70 percent of seniors and juniors in the past year.

After years of increase in drug and alcohol use, both nationally and at U-High, the drop three years ago showed signs of improvement that left many parents, teachers and students feeling good about Mr. Klevgaard's program. Some in the U-High community, however, feel the ball has been dropped since then.

"I can't imagine a school handling drugs with more denial and ignorance," said a teacher who asked to remain anonymous. "A while ago, we threw some

money at the problem, hired a consultant or two and conducted studies and then just patted ourselves on the back and pretended there was no problem.

"We can't be satisfied with one person being hired who cares. We must all stay aware and concerned for our students' development. This includes the parents' involvement, which has been slim to none in years past."

As administrators struggle with what to do next, Principal Jack Knapp feels that the counselors themselves have been too occupied with academic matters and hopefully will be able to focus more on the social side of high school.

"Drug education is going to be directly affected by a huge reevaluation of roles around here," he commented. "We're trying to take the weight off of the shoulders of our counselors and give advisers a bigger role. That frees our counseling office up to circulate in advisories and work with kids on things like drug education."

"Also, this shift would leave counselors available for more personal help. I like to say, 'In a school with a great counseling office, you don't know what's going on in the counseling office.' This is in part because of the element of confidentiality, but more importantly because those problems get solved."

## Speaker hopes visits, caring help U-Highers

"There's really no way for me to gauge how effective I am at helping teens avoid the dangers of drugs and alcohol," said Mr. Marcus Newman during a recent phone interview.

"From the feedback I have gotten it is clear that some people think I'm helpful and others dislike me, but there is no way to know for sure if I helped people."

Believing that communication is the best "anti-drug," Mr. Newman, who has spoken to U-High students for the past seven years, uses the story of his own bout with drug addiction to warn teens about the dangers of drug abuse.

Growing up in the northern suburbs, Mr. Newman, 30, became addicted to drugs and alcohol as a teen and used them throughout high school. He finally got sober at age 18, the same year he overdosed while at college. Now a financial planner and private health education consultant, Mr. Newman currently has contracts to speak to 40 schools around Chicago and the suburbs.

"I devote 12 hours a year talking to junior advisories at U-High," explained Mr. Newman. "I'm not trained or licensed as a drug consultant. I rely on my personal experience with addiction to convey the very real dangers of drugs and alcohol. I was a normal kid with a lot of potential who screwed up his life. I think I make an impact on people, because I'm a real life example of what could happen to any of us."

Touching on some of the reasons he devotes so much of his time to teens, Mr. Newman added, "I talk to young people about addiction out of concern and from personal experience, not because I read about it in a book."

Despite recent concern voiced by members of this year's junior class that Mr.

Newman failed to inform them of his obligation to tell teachers and parents if he is told anything incriminating or that suggests someone is in danger, Mr. Newman says his role is simply one of helping students at risk for drug use by telling his story.

"I believe teenagers are smart enough

**"Our only hope is pure, unadulterated communication between adults and kids and vice versa."**

—Mr. Marcus Newman

to take in certain information and make the right decisions," he explained. "I might piss some people off, but I want to do that if I can actually help those prone to addiction in the process."

"I don't force anybody to say anything and I have never failed to mention at the beginning of a discussion my obligation as an educator to report anything I hear that suggests someone's at risk. Additionally, I expect students to formulate questions without being incriminating."

In preparation for his presentations, Mr. Newman receives a briefing from advisers informing him of any recent drug- or alcohol-related incidents at U-High. Mr. Newman, however, said he has no desire to know names and if he happens to get names, he doesn't recognize faces.

Explaining his thoughts on how best to address the problem of teenage drug use at U-High and around the country, Mr. Newman looked to the future.

"Our only hope," he explained, "is pure, unadulterated communication between adults and kids and vice versa. That is something I think I bring to these discussions with students."

## A tale of two parties

### Social settings contrast

Editors' note: To report this story, two Midway staff members first gained permission from their parents to attend a party in the western suburbs (described here in italics) and a party in Hyde Park to see if there were any differences. They found some. The reporters did not participate in any illegal activities.

Hordes of people flock to the only house on the block with all the lights on. Freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors are pushed forward into hundreds of students clutching their red and blue plastic cups, to the rim with foam. Excited simply to be away from the daily grind of U-High's grueling days filled with tests and sleepless nights filled with papers and labs, U-Highers and non-U-Highers alike seem to be relishing time set aside just to be with each other.

*Shouts ring out from every direction of the house, located on a quiet, unassuming suburban street. Some are from people you know, but there are many voices you simply don't recognize. Elbows are thrown in faces to achieve prime location at the filling-up station—the keg. Cries of, "I'm so drunk!" mix with loud chatter about anything from the latest Lacrosse team news to cell phone conversations about other parties in the area.*

Walking through narrow, packed hallways, all types of characters are seen and met on the way. "Hey you gotta light?"

echoes in ear drums as someone brushes by. The second level of the crib is occupied by small gatherings in each room. Some rooms have boyfriends and girlfriends, or simply two people wanting a good time, while others omit the smell of marijuana. Ah, the bathroom, everyone's place to just get away from it all. You can feel the vibrations in the floor from the bass on the stereo below.

*Strolling casually past the Abercrombie & Fitch posse, there is a small pack of daddy's-little-girls holding mixed drinks and talking about their boyfriends. Suddenly, the host moves anxiously to the door. In about three minutes everyone has to clear out. Some jetting out the back, while most take the front door. They've been through this before. Next, on to any number of greasy, fast food joints for a close to the evening...and a burger for here, please.*

Back in Hyde Park, however, the only threats of a commotion, let alone the police, are simply to "get the freshmen out," as one senior put it. A good time is had by all, but the raucous, out-of-control party atmosphere that is expected at a high school party just doesn't exist at a school where the gathering of girls at the dining room table could have been play group 10 years ago.

## What do you think of

## U-High's drug education program?



Becky Levine  
sophomore

"I don't think Lab does enough drug education that actually prevents people from doing drugs. I think that they should try to come up with a better way to show people that drugs are life threatening that will actually stop people from using drugs."



Mr. Ron Tunis  
guidance counselor

"The adults at the school, be it parents, teachers or administrators, feel it's essential to provide information whether it's written or testimonials, regardless of what students say."

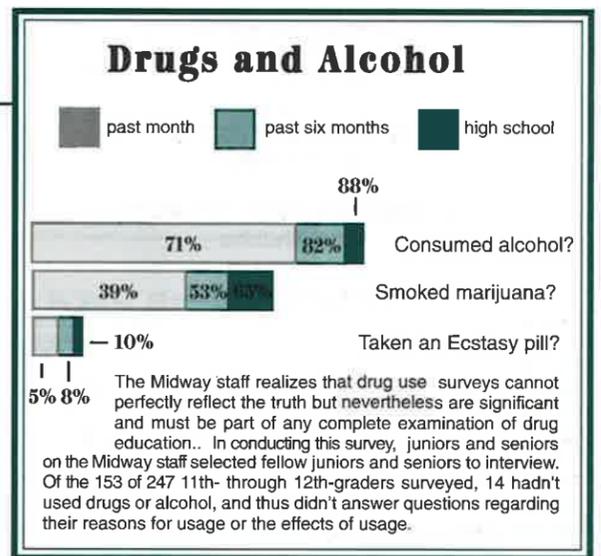


Mrs. Francine Padrid  
parent of Senior Annie

"I don't know what they do in terms of drug education for students. I do my own drug education for my kids. We talk about real situations, how serious it is and I think that if you don't start way before high school, then kids really just don't get the message."



Mr. Larry Zachary  
parent of Freshman Tory and Junior Jordann  
"Whatever the school teaches the kids, if it's not reinforced at home, it doesn't make a difference."

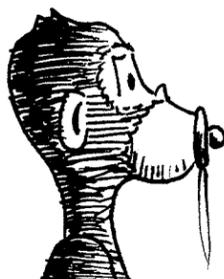


# 12-13 commentary

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

### U-HIGH'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION POLICY:



Jh Sh '01

Art by Joe Sellers

## Rebuilding drug education

After the intense reaction to the Jan. 30 Midway spread on workload, cheating and related issues, the Midway staff was tempted not to go ahead with this issue's spread on drug education.

But, knowing this is the last scheduled issue of the Midway this year with an in-depth spread, the staff felt obligated to take the opportunity to examine this newsworthy subject at length.

As was the workload spread, the drug education spread has been in the planning at least two years.

At the risk of being told the Midway is just stirring up trouble again, we must explain why we felt doing the drug education spread was important.

Substance abuse education at U-High was a very strong program just two years ago. Now, though, some students, parents, faculty and administrators alike question whether there even is such a program.

It has also been almost two years since former drug education coordinator, Mr. Chuck Klevgaard, left the school and the school has yet to find a replacement.

A number of the students who feel the school does enough to educate students about drugs also say that they just don't want to hear anything on

the subject in the first place.

Technically, while there is a substance abuse education program at U-High, even those in charge admit that part of the reason a drug education counselor has not been hired yet is the students' reluctance to be a part of the program.

In the school's own survey of drug use in the High School three years ago, the numbers showed drug use in the school had gone down significantly from four years previous.

That positive the change was attributed at least in part to Mr. Klevgaard and the program he had developed over many years.

It's ironic, then, that what followed was the unintended decline of that program.

It's time for the school to take aggressive steps not only to replace Mr. Klevgaard but to bring the drug education program back into focus, reestablish it and assure its consistent continuation.

Something so valuable, built through many trials and tribulations, should not have just faded away so quickly.

We hope our look at drug education, drug use and its social setting will educate our readers, offer them some insights and inspire them to share their own own feelings on the subject.

## Can you spell permanently?

Strength, Honor, Courage!

Three words commonly used in the Marine Corps, yet oddly enough, now also found commonly on U-Highers' forearms and upper backs in the form of tiny "Chinese" letter caricatures. It is sad to say that for many U-Highers, having a tattoo is now commonplace for all those with Abercrombie & Fitch shirts at the front of their closets, especially with students going as far as getting the same tattoo as a friend, on the same part of their body, only slightly differing in color.

One would expect students to start asking teachers for rides to the local tattoo parlor, located just across the street from Washington Park.

Rides are also available through certain seniors who enjoy adding to their collection of self-glorifying phrases on their bodies, every Tuesday and Thursday after (or during) school.

But seriously though, folks, while tattoos might seem like the next best thing to a North Face jacket right now, it is also important to think about how "tight" one's tattoo will look in 30 years.

## ROUNDTABLE

### Continuing the discussion on workload and cheating

Editor's note: Following up recent discussions of workoverload, cheating and related issues, the Midway's Commentary editor, Natalie Hoy, invited the faculty's chairperson, Math Teacher Rosa McCullagh; a new faculty member, Science Teacher Trisha Muro; a senior, Lisa LaPoint, Communications Committee cochairperson; and a junior, Sam Firke, class president, to participate in a Roundtable discussion. The conversation was tape recorded, transcribed, and edited for conciseness. Each participant then had the opportunity to alter their statements before publication if they wished.

#### Why do you think that U-Highers are cheating?

**Mrs. McCullagh:** Well, from our Communications Committee meeting, my understanding from the students was that students cheat because "The system is rotten, so since the system is rotten it doesn't matter that we cheat because it's rotten anyway."

**Lisa:** Cheating is tolerated here, nobody does anything about it so why shouldn't we do it. We get so much work, so much pressure, we want to get into a good college and the only way to do that is to cheat.

**Sam:** I think that's accurate and the way that I see it is the first two affect the third, that the alternative if kids have too much work is they can either take less classes that require less work or work harder. But assuming they're already working as hard as they can, they either need to cheat or will need to take easier classes. Since cheating is a viable course of action for some students, therefore, they can still take the hard classes and not be pressured.

**Lisa:** I think a lot of cheating I've seen this year is just because the kids are lazy, I really don't think that they were overwhelmed. They just didn't feel like doing their work. If it's a quiz or test I think there's a lot of "I don't need to know it right now" or for a lot of seniors "This grade doesn't matter so I'll keep it as high as it needs to be."

**Mrs. McCullagh:** Could you students define cheating?

**Lisa:** For me I think it's just using someone else's work as your own. The issue that has been for me is that in one class, from a teacher I can get a study guide that is really close to what the test is going to be like the next day and for me that can be considered cheating, but if it comes from a teacher it's not cheating. But if it comes from a student, then yes it is.

**Mrs. McCullagh:** So how are we going to stop it?

**Sam:** The best first step that I have come up with that has the fewest flaws is increasing penalties drastically and maybe monitoring more for them. There are so few repercussions for cheating and the odds of getting caught are so low that maybe we could bring in proctors for a couple of tests. Even some simple things, get colored paper for tests and at the same time really increase penalties. If you get caught cheating making it a serious issue, maybe report it to colleges.

(continued on page 14)



Mrs. McCullagh



Lisa



Mrs. Muro



Sam

## YOUR SAY IN THE MIDWAY

### What do you usually do during "chill time" when there's no Wednesday assembly?

**LARRY KING, freshman:** I usually do all the homework I have that I didn't get to do the night before. I actually really look forward to those chill periods because all the other assemblies are boring and stupid in my opinion. It's actually kind of sad.

**LARA STEELE, sophomore:** I usually just hang out with my friends outside of Mr. Tunis' office because there really isn't anything else to do or anywhere to go.

**EITAN KENSKY, junior:** The free 3rd period on Wednesday is



Larry



Lara



Eitan



Chakka

## U-HIGH MIDWAY

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"I believe that your body is yours and you can do what you want with it. Personally, I'm very in favor of tattoos. I even have Boyu Li's name on my rear end."

—Junior Jessica Siegler

## Discs give film buffs extra lures

WITH MORE vibrant colors and extra features, Digital Video Discs (DVDs) are becoming a more popular way to view films. The same size as a compact disc, DVDs prove a more convenient way to watch movies with the ability to be viewed on desktop and laptop computers.

A timeless classic, the recent release of "The Wizard of Oz" (1939) on DVD includes many extra features such as portrait galleries, a documentary on the making of the film and additional audio supplements on its menu. Capturing the essence of this film, the DVD version keeps the sepia scenes set in Kansas as the VHS did. When in the land of Munchkins, witches and the ominous Oz, color comes in stronger than the VHS, bringing out the magical aspects. Along with chapter selections offered on all DVDs, this movie even has a behind the scenes documentary appropriately titled "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz: The Making of a Movie Classic," hosted by Angela Lansbury.

Not only do viewers relive the classic film "Oz," the DVD features interviews with several of the actors and actresses, outtakes from the cut "Jitterbug" dance and excerpts from 1914 and 1925 silent versions. For a closer look at the history of the movie, "Oz" features a portrait gallery with stills from the Hollywood



IN THE INITIAL FOOTAGE for "The Wizard of Oz," included in a documentary program on a DVD version, Dorothy (Judy Garland, here with Ray Bolger as the scarecrow) was a blonde.

premiere, special effects, original storyboard sketches, costume designs and makeup tests and even Dorothy as a blonde.

If you want more perks, audio supplements of a 1939 radio broadcast of the first public performance of "Over the Rainbow," the promotional radio trailer of "Leo Is In the Air" and material from the first recording session appear.

With everything that made the original version of "The Wizard of Oz" enjoyable, the DVD version takes the movie to the next level making this classic worth seeing again. And points out why DVDs are gaining popularity.

## Film Fest

Priya Sridhar



## A Dream? More like a nightmare

FOUR WHITE teenage girls dressed in black, white and pink tank tops, may be the cover story of Dream's debut album "It Was All A Dream" (Bad Boy Records) but actually it tells the whole story.

Dream is, of course, a totally manufactured group formed through auditions "Making the Band" style, then sold to Hip-Hop Artist and Bad Boy Record company Manager Sean "Puffy" Combs for his label.

Released two months ago, "It Was All A Dream" hit number six on the Billboard charts, propelled by the radio hit "He Loves U Not," which reached number two on the Billboard singles chart. Accompanied only by synthesizers, "He Loves U Not" is a blueprint for every song on the album, about being in love with some guy, over and out.

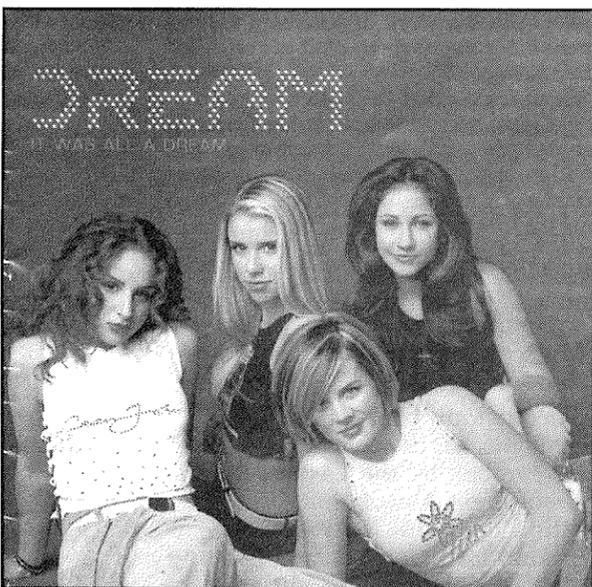


Ear Candy  
Shilpa Rupani

the fact that these girls are not polished, professional artists.

If you learn anything after spending an hour listening to "It Was All A Dream," it is the names of the four girls. Through all four interludes, each girl says their name more than once, as if you would forget it from hearing it 15 minutes before.

Like Tiffany before them, (way before them), Dream kicked off with lip-



synching mall tours, then progressed to opening for \*NSYNC and graduated to opening for 98 Degrees. You can bet what you see is what you get, but what you hear is mostly on the tape.

Dream is a perfect example of how low the standards of music have sunk. Times when talent led to success have passed. Now nothing more than synthesizers, electronic alteration techniques, backup tapes, a choreographer, a decent makeup artist and a big-named producer equate to a new hit group.

If Dream's strings controlled by the record company were cut, the public would see a group similar to those at a high school talent show, energetic and willing but not big-time material.

Dream would be lost without all of the people telling them what to wear, how to act, how to act in public and what to say to create their image.

If a group that is selling thousands of albums needs to be controlled by so many people, the credit Dream receives shouldn't go to them. It should go to all of the producers, the choreographers, makeup artists and everyone else who made this sorry excuse for a group to look like they do.

## War on drugs a losing proposition

PROHIBITION, Abraham Lincoln said, strikes "a blow at the very principles upon which our government was founded." The so-called Drug War, a U.S. governmental program to fight illegal drugs, is now America's 21st century prohibition. It's an internal Vietnam, a guerrilla war with no end in sight, hurting drug dealers far less than one's civil liberties.

America now rivals only Russia in its number of prisoners, 60 percent of whom are held on drug-related offenses, according to the activist group, Families Against Mandatory Minimums.

Racist enforcement of drug policies degrade the U.S. judicial system. Although blacks constituted a mere 15 percent of the drug-using population in 1997, they were 39 times more likely to be arrested for drugs than whites, according to a Harvard Medical School study.

Laws in California, Oregon, Arizona and Utah have been passed by large margins to legalize medicinal marijuana, called by Federal Judge Francis Young "the safest therapeutically active substance known to man."

Propositions in Alaska support one's right to use substances from which there hasn't been a single recorded overdose, according to the Mercury News. But cannabis remains illegal, continuing old puritanical taboos in a society that glamorizes alcohol and tobacco, both addictive and potentially fatal.

The Constitution has been interpreted to include a right to privacy in matters of abortion, health care and sexual orientation. This strong legal precedent supports decriminalization, if not legalization, of all drugs for all adults.

As former Los Angeles Police Department Officer David Klinger aptly told the Mercury News, "We cannot protect free adults from their own poor choices, and we should not use the force of law to try." Instead of building new prisons, our government would be wise to pay for rehab and drug education, taking away dealers' customers for good.

## Blimey

J.A. Redfield



## Sisterly sitcom

■ Charming new comedy celebrates family foibles

ASHOW BASED on three stereotypical women who gossip over "Oprah," can't fix household problems, don't understand sports and fuss over their clothes describes NBC's new 8:30, Tuesday night comedy "Three Sisters" which premiered Jan. 9 on channel 5.

"Three Sisters" follows the lives of the Bernstein-Flynn family including: father, George (Peter Bonerz), mother, Honey (Dyan Cannon), eldest sister, Bess (Katherine LaNasa), middle sister, Nora (Vicki Lewis) and youngest sister, Annie (A.J. Langer).

The show portrays a liberal, tight-knit family involved in every aspect of each other's lives. Bess is married to Steven Keats (David Alan Baache), who also narrates the show, commenting in his narration that marrying a woman with sisters is like marrying all the sisters. This appears to be true.

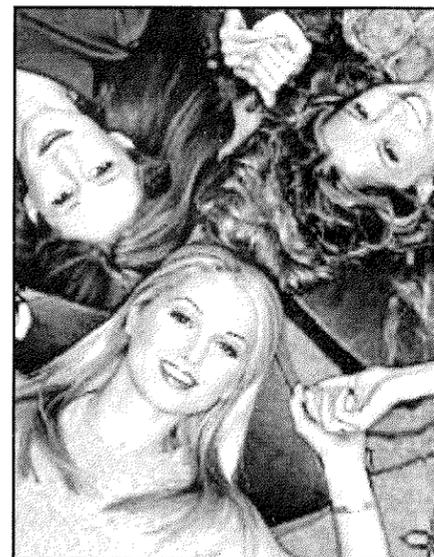
Amid a quaint, brightly colored set, the sisters do seemingly everything together. They eat, gather at their parents' house on a daily basis, watch T.V.,



Couch Potato  
Jordann Zachary

discuss men, all the while making stereotypical womanish comments.

However, each sister's personality-wise Bess, witty Nora and airhead Annie—seems to shine through and provide enough entertainment to redeem the unoriginal storyline of the show. Although the humor in this mindless comedy is for the most part predictable, the unique personalities of all the characters and the wholesomeness of such strong family cohesion evokes a sense of pureness and simplicity uncommon in everyday life.



THE STUNNING SIBLINGS of "Three Sisters," NBC-TV's much-talked-about new comedy, are Nora (Vicki Lewis), Annie (A.J. Langer) and Bess (Katherine LaNasa).

"Three Sisters" focuses on arguably the most important thing in life, family.

Perhaps in its own way it challenges each and every one of us to realize how truly special family is.

## Write us!

The Midway welcomes letters for publication. The only rule is letters must be signed. If a letter needs editing for conciseness or to meet legal requirements, the editors will work with the letterwriter to prepare the letter for publication. Letters can be placed in the Journalism mail slot in the Principal's Office or brought to the Midway office in Lillie House. Help us maintain our marketplace of ideas and see your name in print. Write on!

# 14 portfolio



"I shot about 90 pictures. I hope you like these."  
 —Senior Will Mittendorf  
 who photographed "Can you guess?" on this page

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

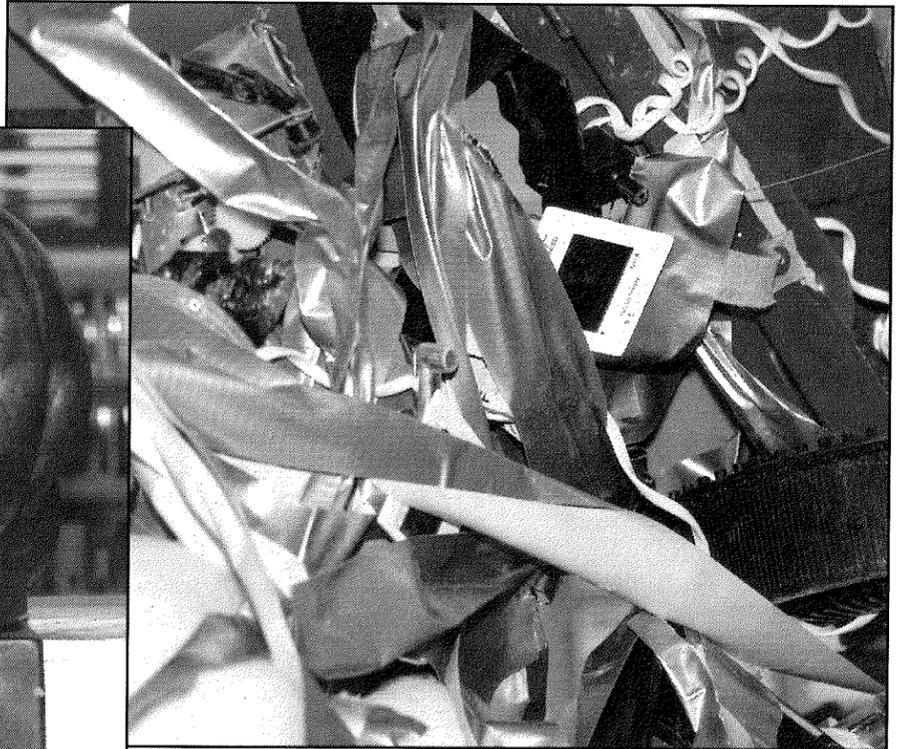
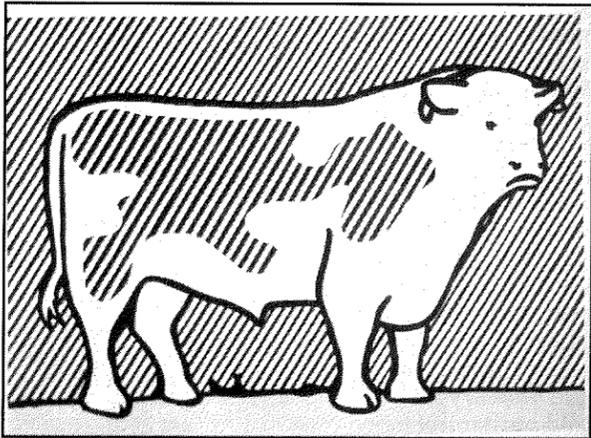
## Can you guess?

**Assignment:** Photograph places and objects in the school U-Highers can see everyday and challenge them to make an identification.

**Photographer:** Will Mittendorf.

**Result:** Many, many photos. Here are just three of them.

Can you tell what these are photos of and where they were taken? The answers are upside down below the righthand photo.



THE COW (photos from left) appeared in the third-floor lounge as part of the Arts Fest mural. The bronze head sculpture is in the library, labeled "Lachaise, Gaston 1882-1935" and dated 1918. Lachaise was an acclaimed sculpture artist. The remains of "Smashin' Junk" from Arts Fest were spotted atop a locker adjacent to the Senior Lounge.

## ROUNDTABLE: Continuing the discussion

(continued from page 12)

the same time really increase penalties. If you get caught cheating making it a serious issue, maybe report it to colleges. I think that if a couple people got caught doing this it would be recognized that this is serious because no one thinks about the consequences of cheating. No one says "What can happen to me if I'm caught?"

**Mrs. McCullagh:** I find myself in the circumstance where kids on a test ask a question and I'm always torn about what I should say in response. I've had a kid absolutely paralyzed because they can't do something and they're panic stricken and I say to them "You can do this" and I may even say "You've seen a question like this before, read the question, what are you

thinking?" I'm saying that to somebody but I'm not saying that to somebody else.

**Mrs. Muro:** When a student asks a question because maybe I didn't phrase it clearly, I tend to share that to the rest of the class. But if I did that for every question I would be talking during the whole test and that's not helpful.

**Mrs. McCullagh:** What are you thinking when you see a colleague asking a question and you see some kind of conversation going on?

**Sam:** I think that the panic-stricken student is an exception but I think there are some kids who would probably get a C without asking questions. But in certain classes you could go up and say, "Well give me the first step, well how about a second one, how about a third." That's not a fair representation of their knowledge, and it artificially raises her grade.

**Mrs. McCullagh:** I can't always monitor all the time, the only thing I can really monitor is a test or a quiz. So where does the students responsibility come in here?

**Sam:** I almost see it as a little kid who doesn't want to stop eating cookies before dinner and ideally he will realize that before he's grown up. There will come a point where he says I shouldn't be doing this because it will spoil my dinner. But until then you have to punish the child because there's no reason not to eat cookies if you don't. I think that a lot of kids don't want to stop cheating because cheating helps them and as long as they don't get caught, there is no downside. I wish students could do something. Maybe students could help, but we don't know how. A lot of them want to cheat and it's not that they are forced to and that they would like an alternative. They want to cheat.

## Living Room Makeover Miracle

(A True Story)



Photo by Debbie Traub

Before

Covered with dirt and grime, this living room in a 120-year-old house deep in Hyde Park seemed hopeless. The paint was peeling and there were cracks all over the ceiling and walls. It appeared to be a lost cause until C.B. Davis Construction...

With a little bit of plastering here and some paint there, the room was done. With more than 40 years of experience in Hyde Park, no room stands a chance against C.B. Davis Construction.

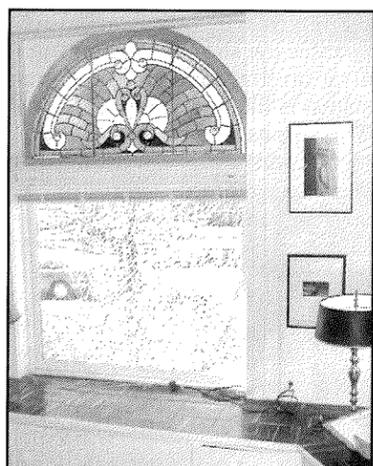


Photo by Jennifer Sydel

After

## C.B. Davis Construction

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## Yearbook wins state prize

For the fourth consecutive year, U-Highlights has been named Best Overall Yearbook by the Eastern Illinois School Press Association. The 2000 edition tied with the Blackhawk of Stockton for first-place honors in the small school competition based on awards in individual categories.

U-Highlights won first-place awards for photography and copy and second-place for layout and design, sports coverage and school year coverage.

The yearbook also is a candidate for the Pacemaker Award of the National Scholastic Press Association, which recognizes the 24 yearbooks in the nation judged best for overall excellence.

The winners will be revealed at a national conference next month in San Francisco (see story below).

The 2000 U-Highlights was edited by Natalie Bump, Darlyn Pirakitikulr and Nirav Shah, all of whom graduated last June and are now college freshmen.

## Journalists to attend convention

Six U-High journalism students accompanied by Publications Adviser Wayne Michael Brasler will travel to San Francisco for the National Scholastic Press Association-Journalism Education Association national convention Thursday, April 5-Saturday, April 8.

More than 5,000 high school journalism students and publications staff members and their faculty advisers are expected to attend.

The convention will offer dozens of classes, seminars and workshops on a broad range of journalism topics.

Mr. Brasler will present a program on the challenges school newspapers face in becoming community leaders.

He also will be critiquing school newspapers in individual consultations. He also will participate in judging the Best of Show contest which recognizes outstanding publications among those whose staff are attending

the convention.

At an awards ceremony Saturday the 2000 U-Highlights will receive one of 59 Pacemaker Finalist awards for overall excellence. From the Finalists, 24 yearbooks will then be announced as Pacemaker Award winners. This is the second consecutive year U-Highlights has been among the Finalists.

Lots of sightseeing is planned, Mr. Brasler said. "Since we know so many of the other staffs coming and their advisers, we'll probably be going a lot of places as part of a big group. Part of the educational benefits of these conventions is the opportunity to meet so many people from across the nation devoted to high school journalism."

The students planning to make the trip are as follows:

Seniors Mike Lamb and Kian Dowlatshahi; juniors Natalie Hoy and Abigail Newman; and sophomores Jessica Heyman and Shilpa Rupani.

"Japanimation incorporates mature themes into animated drawings and escapes the ridiculous nature of American cartoons."  
—Junior Josh Joseph, Japanimation artist



U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## Spreading a web of enthusiasm

By Bree Boulware

Midway reporter

Through her website, Junior Charlie Anderson shares her love of Japanimation. She is one of many U-Highers who enjoy creating and watching Japanimation in her spare time.

Charlie first became interested in Japanimation in 4th grade when she was looking for an out-of-the-ordinary hobby.

"I just happened to stumble across Japanimation when I was surfing the net and it really intrigued me," Charlie said. "It was so different from American cartoons and I have always been interested in Japanese culture."

Impressed with the content and depth of the characters and plots, Charlie started her own web site, *ArielAnimaJunctions.net*, dedicated to the Japanimation series, "Evangelion."

With her web site, Charlie started her own fan fiction club in which alternative endings to cartoons could be written and posted on the web.

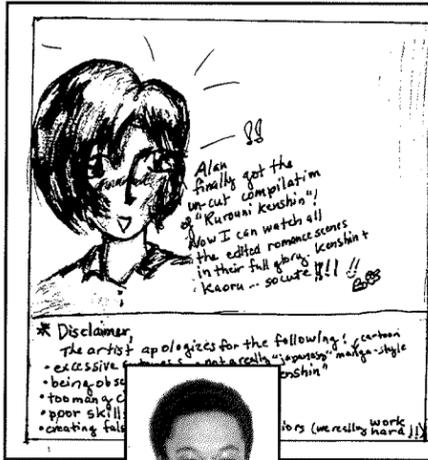
"I started the web site and fan fiction club with some friends," Charlie said. "We were researching Japanimation and different fan fiction web sites and

decided that they were really incomplete.

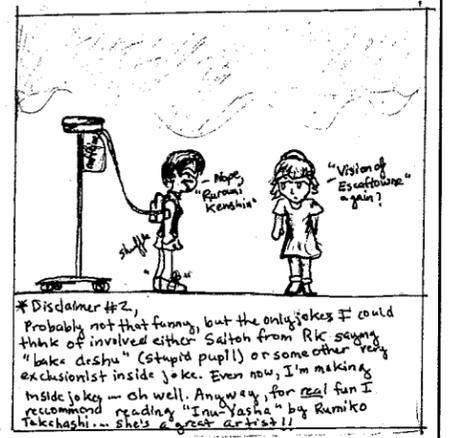
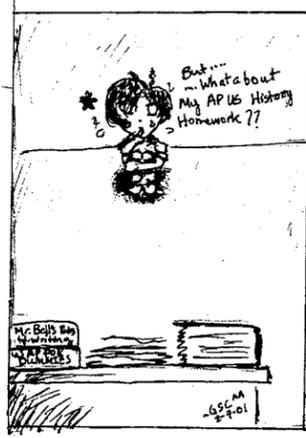
What we did on my web site was fill in the information that the other web sites didn't provide, and put up a message board for people to write their own fan fiction, which are the continuations of Japanimation series that have ended."

Dedicated to helping Japanimation gain further success in the United States, Charlie is both hopeful and optimistic that the cartoons will continue to gain acceptance.

"I'm glad that more people are beginning to appreciate the art form for what it is," Charlie said. "Japanimation has really begun to catch the eyes of American people. It's a good thing, because when you watch Japanimations, they allow you to experience stories and images which can stimulate your brain."



\*Disclaimer: The artist apologizes for the following: cartoon - excessive - being obese - too many c - poor skill - creating field



\*Disclaimer #2: Probably not that funny, but the only jokes I could think of involved either Saitoh from RK saying "baka deshu" (stupid pupil) or some other really exclusionist inside joke. Even now, I'm making inside jokes - oh well. Anyway, for real fun I recommend reading "Inu-Yasha" by Rumiko Takahashi... she's a great artist!!

## Animatedly continuing the heritage of a culture

By Becca Nichols

Midway reporter

Working to improve his Japanimation drawing skills, Senior Kokhi Yamaguchi draws at least an hour everyday.

"Japanimation is something you have to practice," he said. "You have to sit down and work on the drawings for a portion of the day because it is an art you have to perfect."

As a Japanese-American, Kokhi began watching Japanimation at the age of 12. Surrounded by Japanimation his entire life, Kokhi said it was only natural to become interested in the art.

"I started drawing Japanimation in 6th or 7th grade. I never took any classes for it because it is more an art style that you can perfect on your own."

Losing interest after Middle School, Kokhi returned to drawing Japanimation with renewed vigor during his junior year in high school.

While Japanimation is more complex than American cartoons, Kokhi commented, it still attracts the mainstream cartoon fans.

"American cartoons are mainly done for humor where Japanese cartoons are more like a novel with a lot more detail and emotion. Many of the Japanimation stories are based on actual Japanese folk stories."

"Japanimation has three different styles, Old, Middle and New. Old style of Japanimation is freehand cartoon character style. New style is mainly using a computer so the graphics are elaborate and the detail refined."

"I focus on the Middle Style, which is done by drawing freehand and using some computer graphics to touch it up."



"After I am done doing the outline of my work, I scan it into the computer and work on the picture there. The computer helps to color pictures more easily and makes the image much easier to clean up because of the amount of detail I can put in."

Kokhi plans on keeping Japanimation as a hobby for years to come.

"I'm not focusing on Japanimation as a career," he said, "but I see myself continuing it in college."

## The story of Japanimation

Nearly 30 years ago, Japanimation made its debut in the United States with the popular ABC-TV series "Astro Boy," based on a popular Japanese Japanimation series originated by the founder of Japanimation, artist Osamu Tezuka.

With Japanimation currently in high demand in the U.S., every major network airs some sort of Anime, the Japanese word for animation.

Incorporating complex characterization and intricate storylines, Anime, which includes comic strips, T.V. shows and films, differs from American animated work in its exploration of real-life issues, even depicting death in some episodes.

The deep content and mature subjects dealt with in Anime make it appealing to adults as well as children. Stories can cover a wide variety of genres including anything from romantic comedy to

science fiction.

The philosophy behind Anime expresses valuable life lessons, in particular those important in Japanese culture. Interwoven into the storyline emerge lessons such as hard work paying off, difficulties overcome and life having meaning and purpose, lending a deeper significance to Anime than just high quality cartooning for basic entertainment purposes.

Stylized with simple lines and detailed features, Anime characters share a distinct look, usually containing a slight Japanese resemblance.

The combination of complex characters and storyline containing both realistic and fantasy elements offers Anime fans a unique animated experience covering real-life issues with a hint of science fiction to stimulate the imagination.

—Jordann Zachary, Arts page editor

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# 16 special report



"Being involved in the news gives you the opportunity to affect change, you have a unique responsibility to the public. Journalism is the only profession written in the Constitution. Right to free press."

— Mr. Albert Randall

Channel 5 news supervisor of electronic journalism

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## STRAIGHT from 5 STUDIO

■ Behind the scenes at a big city news telecast...and big production

**M**ARCH 1, 6:56 P.M., three hours before the 10 p.m. news at Channel 5 is scheduled to air. Walking into the first floor downtown studios outside Tribune Plaza, a visitor might expect pandemonium as the night's news is hastily being assembled.

But inside the tall, modern building overlooking the Chicago River, with the signature NBC peacock adorning the top, the only sounds that are heard are the drones of about 150 unoccupied computers and a woman's voice pleading, "I need a serious Margarita."

The anchors, Allison Rosati and Warner Saunders, have not yet arrived, but the writers' meeting begins at 7:18 p.m. During the meeting, a notion arises that something big has happened or is about to happen. The van of a missing Joliet family has just been found.

"We got a real good shot around 6:50 of the van being pulled out of the river," says writer Darren Garrett. "Amy's going to be satellite." As the meeting continues, field reporter Amy Jacobson drives out in the NBC truck to the Des Plaines River to report the story.

Next is a shot of the cleanup process in the aftermath of Seattle's earthquake. "Harvey, give me some good rubble," news producer Katy Kampschroeder says to writer Harvey Hunt, decked out in cowboy boots and a sheriff's buckle.

As he explodes into the meeting, Chris Meyers, 10 p.m. news executive producer, announces, "The family is kind of pissed at us." The family had been involved in a child pornography case and Channel 5 had been the only station to report the story. While it allowed the other stations into their home for interviews, their doors were closed for Channel 5. He leaves the meeting early to try and fix the problem and by the time the meeting is over, the family is no longer angry.

At 7:25 p.m. the only audible human voice that can be heard is that of the police and fire dispatcher over the radio and whatever punch line they happen to be telling on the show "Friends." The amount of organization and control involved in doing a live news show greatly cuts down the amount of banter that goes on between staff members.

### Traffic cop for the 10 p.m. news



Ms. Kampschroeder

Briefing writers on the rundown of the 10 p.m. newscast at a meeting in a small, glass-walled conference room, a petite woman sits at the head of a long rectangular table. With her auburn bob and a magenta sweater set, she looks very put together. She has to be.

Deciding what stories go into the newscast, which anchor reads them, putting the stories in order, designating specific times to each story and choosing the graphics is all in a day's work for Katy Kampschroeder, news producer for the 10 p.m. newscast. Ms. Kampschroeder is a friend of U-High's Assistant to the Principal Tom Minelli.

Working only 11 months in T.V. news before becoming a producer, Ms. Kampschroeder has been with NBC News Channel 5 since 1996. Opting to work off camera, Ms. Kampschroeder didn't like the competition that comes along with anchoring the news. "I didn't want to go through a beauty contest," she explained. "I tried anchoring for a little bit, but I didn't care for the criticisms from news directors. I don't do things that make me uncomfortable."

Attentively staring into a computer screen during the telecast, Ms. Kampschroeder controls the timing of the newscast.

"I start the news at 10 p.m. and 30 seconds and end at 10:32 p.m. and 45 seconds," Ms. Kampschroeder said. "My job is to make sure that everything is on time and runs according to plan."

Although she encourages involvement in T.V. news, Ms. Kampschroeder points out that sacrifice comes with the job.

"Be prepared to pay your dues," Ms. Kampschroeder said. "Be prepared to work in a city away from home and not get paid very much at all. It's a lot of work, but if you love what you're doing, it's well worth it."

being watched by a single technician.

From 7:40 to 7:45 p.m., the main anchors, a very pregnant Ms. Rosati, a very tall Mr. Saunders, halfback-built sports anchor Mike Adamle and personable weatherman Brant Miller, enter the newsroom. Ms. Rosati walks around the newsroom, while Mr. Saunders, just back from shooting a new movie about Muhammad Ali starring Will Smith, sits in his separate office. Mr. Miller talks with other members of the behind camera crew while Mr. Adamle is talking on the phone with his wife. A popcorn machine celebrating the end of ratings week sits in the middle of the blue and tan, T.V. and computer filled newsroom. "You think I'm weird!" Mr. Miller suddenly exclaims, definitely not discussing the weather.

The modern set design is countered by the messy desks and chairs off camera. To the right is the Channel 5 Weather Center, but the green screen used to superimpose the weather is nowhere to be seen. The set is filled with the pungent odor of machine exhaust from the cameras. Two T.V.s, one carrying ABC and the other carrying CBS, are to one side.

Inside the weather newsroom, the lights are on and several radars are running but no one is home. A map of every county in the United States hangs on one wall of the newsroom. A skeleton wearing a CBS Sports hat stands sheepishly outside the office.

At 9:30 p.m., Ms. Rosati and Mr. Saunders are in their respective offices. Each anchor for NBC 5 has a separate office lining one wall of the newsroom. Ms. Rosati's office is brightly lit. Her door is covered with drawings done by her three children.

Mr. Saunderson's more businesslike office has a poster of Tiananmen Square hanging above black cabinets and on top of his computer is a shot of Michael Jordan.

It is only 30 minutes before the broadcast, but empty cubicles still dominate the newsroom. Mr. Horstman blows a large, red



horn, for no reason other than boredom.

Up at the control room, one floor above the studio, it's dark and small. Four people watch the room's 63 T.V. screens.

At 9:53 p.m., Ms. Rosati and Mr. Saunders go through microphone checks. Ms. Rosati looks slightly younger on T.V. than in real life, but Mr. Saunders looks the same.

After everyone has done a microphone check, the director counts down from five to begin the show. Ms. Kampschroeder keeps track of how long each segment runs, so she knows if anything needs to be cut.

As they are doing a microphone check on Ms. Jacobson, associate director Alison Ebert says of Ms. Jacobson, "She is so sick and so cold. Look at her, she's shivering!"

At 10 p.m., the news begins. As Ms. Jacobson leads off with a live feed from Joliet, she has one split second to stop shivering before the camera cuts to her.

As she introduces the Indiana fire story, field reporter Natalie Martinez stumbles over her introduction. She regains her composure and reveals only one member of the family survived the fire, but not before Mrs. Ebert chimes in, "I can't believe she just missed that."

At 10:14 p.m., back at the set, three cameras get positioned around the set. A computer controls the cameras; there is no cameraman. The lights make the set 20 degrees warmer than the rest of the newsroom.

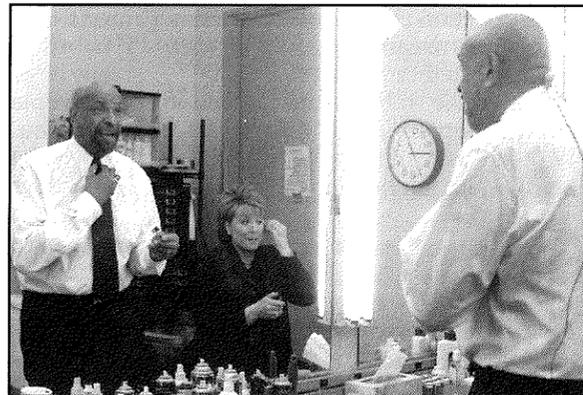
When Mr. Miller finishes the weather, the green screen is retracted, revealing the in-studio weather center. Then, Mr. Miller discusses a round of miniature golf for charity he had with local broadcasters.

"One sports guy had the personality of this tabletop," he says to Ms. Rosati, Mr. Saunders and now Mr. Adamle, who has walked onto the stage to do sports.

During the break, Mr. Saunders asks Mr. Adamle if the Blackhawks won. Mr. Adamle gets a stroke of genius and says to Mr. Saunders, "Say, 'Hawks win?' I'll say 'no.' You say, 'Hawks lose?' I'll say 'no.'"

And, 30 seconds later, they deliver the bit as if it was scripted. But during a highlight of a college basketball game, Mr. Adamle reads one thing and the video shows another. He continues on as if it was nothing.

At 10:32 p.m., the newscast ends and everyone is out. It goes by quickly. It was delivered so casually to seven million homes, but it was just another day at the office.



**THE CHANNEL 5 NEWS** (photos from top) looks about the same in person as is does on the T.V. screen except everything looks smaller and less glamorous. Anchors Warner Saunders and Allison Rosati get cues from teleprompters attached to the computer operated T.V. cameras.

**AN HOUR** before the telecast the anchors touch up their makeup (Mr. Saunders, back from a movie shoot, already had his on) and hair. Unlike film stars, they do it themselves.

### He's the man who calls the shots

Sitting in his chair, front and center in the control room is a tall, slim, chestnut haired man who is literally calling the shots.

Speaking to people on the main stage floor via headset is David Ratzlaff, television news program director for the 4:30, 6 and 10 p.m. telecasts. Carefully monitoring the newscast minutes prior to and during the telecast, Mr. Ratzlaff ensures that no errors are made.

Starting television news in high school as an anchor for the daily telecast, Mr. Ratzlaff has been interested in and has shaped his career upon his passion for television news. He has been working at NBC News Channel 5 for the past 20 years. He has been involved in many different aspects of television news production, including NBC sports.

Working behind the scenes wasn't Mr. Ratzlaff's first intention, but has become something he enjoys greatly.

"I thought I wanted to be on camera at first," Mr. Ratzlaff said. "But because I like to be in control and call the shots I direct best. I like the creative aspects of directing."

Although not on camera himself, Mr. Ratzlaff greatly admires those on camera who have been his influences.

"I grew up watching the famed anchor Walter Cronkite, he's always been an idol of mine," Mr. Ratzlaff explained. "And since working here I've looked up to the anchors, Allison and Warner."



Mr. Ratzlaff

### Veteran journalist stands tall among city's T.V. newscasters



Mr. Saunders

Striding briskly into the NBC News Channel 5 studio at 7:50 p.m., comes Warner Saunders, running late from shooting parts of his cameo appearance in the new film based on the life of Muhammad Ali starring Will Smith. Towering at the height of 6 feet, 5 inches, veteran news anchor (he's 66) certainly draws attention.

Becoming a mogul in the T.V. news industry, Mr. Saunders was summoned from being Boys and Girls Club director, into the T.V. news business in 1968 by Channel 7. Working at NBC for the past 20 years, he has been coanchoring both the 6 and 10 p.m. telecasts

since May 1997.

The calm Mr. Saunders explains that the commotion and nervousness of live T.V. get him pumped up for the telecast.

"If you are anxious about what you do, it gives you adrenaline, it gives you the ego and people will want to watch you," he said. "When anchoring, each person brings themselves into the story. It's hard not to do because prejudices get in the way. T.V. news isn't objective, but we have to strive for that. We only exist in the listening of others and it's our ability as newscasters to punch through, we have to get others to listen."

"We too often report on horrible things because they are the news. It's our responsibility to be accurate, balanced and fair."

Story by Rob Wile  
Profiles by Keir Harris  
Photos by Betsy Kalven

"When the St. Louis Rams won the Super Bowl last year, I r-y friends were experiencing the ultimate glory in sports."

-Sports Agent Les Bond  
father of freshman Noelle Bond



U-High dad a high-profile agent

## Sports are his business

By **Kian Dowlatshahi**  
Sports editor

Having traveled from St. Louis, a sharply dressed man enters U-High to pick up his daughter from school. He is opening a branch of his business in Chicago, but more importantly is here to spend time with his family. He is Mr. Les Bond, father of Freshman Noelle, businessman and part owner of Edge Sports Agency.

His agency, a St. Louis-based company, represents National Football League players including St. Louis Rams Superstars Marshall Faulk, this season's Most Valuable Player and Az-Zahir Hakim.

Mr. Bond, 45, grew up in St. Louis, then graduated from Princeton University in 1979 as a public and international affairs major. He then attended Northwestern University's Law and Business program. He got his first job shortly after that, working for King and Spalding, a law firm in Atlanta. It wasn't until 1989 when he began his career in sports.

"I began my career in the business side of sports in Chicago," Mr. Bond said. "I was working with the Chicago Bears organization and the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority. We were trying to work out a deal that would get the Bears a closed-dome stadium behind McCormick Place."

The deal never went through, however, as the Bears are still playing at Soldier Field, their home since 1921.

According to Mr. Bond, his career with Edge Sports began somewhat by chance.

"I met Rocky Arceneaux, Faulk's agent, in a restaurant and we started talking," Mr. Bond recalled. "He needed a lawyer, someone



Photo courtesy of Les Bond

**ENJOYING SOME TIME after work, from left, Edge Sports Agent Rocky Arceneaux, Sports Businessman Les Bond and St. Louis Rams Wide Receiver Az-Zahir Hakim.**

he could travel with to help him, so my career with Edge Sports began. I became certified to work as a sports agent, but I spent most of my time as a lawyer and businessman."

Although he has his own investment banking company to worry about, Mr. Bond still works as a sports attorney with Edge Sports. However, he still maintains friendships with the athletes that Edge Sports represents.

"You develop a close relationship with your athletes because you are keeping their best interests in mind all the time," Mr. Bond explained. "When the St. Louis Rams won the Super Bowl last year, I really got a sense of fulfillment knowing that my friends were experiencing the ultimate glory in sports."

As Noelle and Mr. Bond jet off for Spring Break in Northern California and then Malibu, the fruits of working in the sports biz have definitely paid off.

## Spring squads ready to shoot for titles

By **Elizabeth Stigler**

Sports editor

Last spring's handful of Independent School League titles has the tennismen, baseballers and girls' soccer team aiming to repeat, while tracksters hope to dominate with a much bigger squad.

Despite shuffling coaches, tennismen believe they can take the ISL crown once again. Coach Gerold Hanck has replaced Dean of Students Larry McFarlane and new coach Rich Gray will assist Coach Hanck. At 4:30 p.m. Thursday, the team plays Hinsdale South, with varsity away and j.v. at home.

"Once we settle into our positions we'll gain some reliability as a team," said Senior Robby Willoughby, first singles player. "We have real potential to build a strong base, which leads me to believe we can do just as well as we did last year."

Baseballers welcome three new seniors and new Varsity Coach Tom Piane. He replaces Mr. Jack Taylor, who led the team to five ISL titles. Baseballers swing into their season at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, facing Hales Franciscan in Washington Park.

"We're a pretty lighthearted group," said Pitcher Sim Khalidi, senior. "From what I've seen in workouts, I think a lot of our friendly camaraderie will be evident in our games."

With 29 players, varsity soccer girls feel they have enough talent to defend the ISL title. Six juniors and two sophomores moved up to varsity. The team begins faces McAuley 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, at home.

"We're having more fun, but we've stayed just as good," Senior Annie Padrid said. "We lost some good players, but we're filling their spots with players who have improved."

Bolstered by promising additions, tracksters return with 42 members after last year's dip in numbers. Competition begins next Wednesday at Rich East. With Ms. Marty Billingsley on leave, returning coaches Peggy Doyle and Jim Roady have taken over the girls' squad with Coach Lauren Amos, a former sprinter at Duke University.

"With so many people, it increases everyone's chances of scoring," Coach Doyle said. "We won't have problems with individuals carrying too big of a burden. We'll do better in ISL as a result."

In winter news, Senior Mike Lamb advanced from the Regional Semifinals for the IHSA three-point competition Feb. 20-21 at Hales Franciscan and then took the Regional title Feb. 22. Mike advanced to the first round of Sectionals Feb. 27 at Westmont High.

## The value of tryouts

### School's all-can-play policy needs a new look

WITH U-HIGH'S coaching staff being shuffled around more than a deck of cards in the cafeteria and the dispute between Student Council and the Athletic Department over exempting athletes, one can't help but examine what athletics mean to the U-High community.

U-Highers are familiar with the official Lab Schools policy that everyone

serious about the sport, who have to play another year of j.v. because a new senior has taken their spot.

Those who commit and have committed time and energy in the past are the ones who suffer. They might not get all their cuts in during batting practice because they have to let their senior, newcomer counterparts in to take a couple hacks.

Other extracurricular program at U-High require a tryout regardless of grade level.

The theater program at U-High is arguably one of the best in the country based on our school's size. Just because you're an upperclassman doesn't mean you'll be given a starring role in a play. Playing Macbeth or even Witch Number Three in a production means you've at least tried out.

The Jazz Band here at U-High doesn't award the trumpet solo, or any part in the band for that matter, to an upperclassman without the individual proving themselves.

Varsity athletics, even at a school with a strong academic focus, is about competing at the highest level possible. A varsity coach doesn't have the time to teach fundamentals to seniors who have never played before. Fundamentals is what j.v. is about.

Regardless of whether or not there are solutions to this problem we have to evaluate what lessons our school's athletic policies are teaching U-Highers.

## Spring has Sprung

### BASEBALL

Hales Franciscan, tomorrow, March 28, 4:30 p.m., home; Leo, varsity home and j.v. away, 11 a.m., March 31; Illiana Christian, varsity home and j.v., away, 4:30 p.m., April 4; Mt. Carmel, varsity away and j.v. at Jackson Park, 3:45 p.m., April 6; Latin, 4 p.m., April 10, away; Prosser, 4:30 p.m., April 12, home; Lake Forest Academy, varsity only, 4:30 p.m., April 17, away; Lake Forest Academy, j.v. only, 5 p.m., April 18, away.

Elgin Academy (doubleheader) 10 a.m., April 21, home; Morgan Park Academy, 4:30 p.m., April 23, home; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., April 24, home; Lane Tech, varsity home and j.v. away, 4:30 p.m., April 26; Francis Parker, 4:15 p.m., April 27, home; Westmont (doubleheader), 10 a.m., April 28, home; St. Benedict, varsity away 7:30 p.m. and j.v. home 4:30 p.m., April 30; Northridge Prep, varsity away 4:45 p.m., and j.v. home 4:30 p.m., May 1.

North Shore, 5 p.m., May 2, away; Latin, 4 p.m., May 4, home; Evergreen Park (doubleheader), varsity home 10 a.m. and j.v. away 10 a.m., May 5; Walther Lutheran, varsity away 4:45 p.m. and j.v. home 4:30 p.m., May 7; Morgan Park Academy, varsity, 4 p.m., May 8, home; Luther East, j.v., 4 p.m., May 8, home; Kenwood Academy, 4:30 p.m., May 10, away; Lake Forest Academy, 4:30 p.m., May 11, home; Regionals, May 15.

### GIRLS' SOCCER

McAuley, 4:30 p.m., March 28, home; Parker, 4:30 p.m., May 30, home; Argo Tournament, 10 a.m., March 31, away; Illiana Christian, j.v., 4:30 p.m., April 2, home; St. Ignatius, varsity away and j.v. home, both 4:30 p.m., April 4; Steinmetz, j.v., 4:30 p.m., April 9, away; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., April 10, away; Lake Forest Academy, 4:45 p.m., April 12, away; Elgin Academy, 4:30 p.m., April 17, home; Willows, 4:45 p.m., April 24, home; Woodlands, varsity, 4:30 p.m., April 27, away; Fenwick, 4:30 p.m., April 27, home.

Parker, 1:30 p.m., April 28, home; Latin, 4 p.m., May 1, away; Morton, 4:30 p.m., May

3, home; North Shore, 4:30 p.m., May 4, home; Lake Forest Academy, 4:30 p.m., May 8, home; Latin, 4:30 p.m., May 10, home; Elgin Academy, 4:30 p.m., May 11, away; Guerin, varsity, 4:45 p.m., May 14, home; Willows, j.v., 4:45 p.m., May 14, home; Woodlands, 4:30 p.m., May 16, home; Regionals, May 18.

### BOYS' TENNIS

Hinsdale South, varsity away and j.v. home, both 4:30 p.m.; Francis Parker, 4:15 p.m., April 3, home; Sandburg, 4:30 p.m., April 4, home; Homewood-Flossmoor, 4:30 p.m., April 6, away; Evanston Invitational, 9 a.m., April 7, away; St. Ignatius, 4:30 p.m., April 9, home; Latin, 4 p.m., April 10, home; Elgin, 4:30 p.m., April 12, away; Lake Forest Academy, 4:30 p.m., April 17, away; Lockport Tournament, varsity 8 a.m. and j.v. 9 a.m., both away, April 21.

Fenwick, varsity home and j.v. away, both 4:30 p.m.; New Trier, 4:30 p.m., April 27, away; Marist, 4:30 p.m., May 2, home; Rock Island Tourney, 3:30 p.m., May 4-5, away; Morgan Park Academy, 4 p.m., May 8, away; ISL Conference, May 11-12; Brother Rice, 4 p.m., May 14, home; Sectionals, May 18-19; State, May 24-26.

### GIRLS' TRACK AND FIELD

Rich East, April 4, 4 p.m., away; 10 a.m., April 7, away; Home, 4:30 p.m., April 12, University of Chicago; Ridgewood, 10 a.m., April 21, away; Home, 4:30 p.m., April 24, University of Chicago; ISL Conference Meet, May 8; Sectionals, May 12; State Meet, May 18-20.

### BOYS' TRACK AND FIELD

Lisle, 10 a.m., April 7, away; Home, 4:30 p.m., April 12, University of Chicago; Ridgewood, 10 a.m., April 21, away; Home, 4:30 p.m., April 24, University of Chicago; Chicago Christian, 4 p.m., April 27, away; Home, 4:30 p.m., May 1, University of Chicago; Carlin Nalley Meet, Lisle, 9 a.m., May 5, away; ISLs, May 8; Sectionals, May 10; State, May 25-26.



**Federle Express**

Jules Federle

has the right to be on a sports team, that no one can be cut from a

team and, that if you're a senior—in some cases even if you're an upperclassman—you automatically play on varsity.

Take for example the policy which gives upperclassmen—more specifically seniors—a free ticket to varsity, no questions asked. This policy might teach these upperclassmen that privilege comes before ability.

While these seniors certainly have the right to go out and play a sport, the fact that they are given the right of playing on varsity right off the bat is questionable. Consider the juniors who have been playing for years, those who are

## Basketball tournament returns

By **Kian Dowlatshahi**

Sports editor

March Madness will come to Kovler Gym for the Lab Schools' 2nd Annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament this Saturday. The competition is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m., with the championship game at 3 p.m.

The tournament, sponsored by the

Parents' Association and Office of Alumni and Development, will be separated between men's, women's and coed divisions.

A \$75 entry fee is required for each team, payable to the Lab Schools Parents' Association. Trophies and t-shirts will be awarded to the winners and snacks and refreshments will be served.



"Joining Dance Troupe for the first time as a senior, I didn't think it would be hard. But it turned out we had to work hard to get the dances choreographed well, in the end we all had fun."

—Senior Alani Hicks-Bartlett, Dance Troupe member

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2001

## Dance Troupe wants R-E-S-P-E-C-T

By Rachel Greene  
Associate editor

After devoting three months to practicing and performing their routine, Dance Troupe members feel their efforts have gone unappreciated.

The Troupe was formed six years ago to perform at basketball games. Eventually it outshone the cheerleading squad, which disbanded. Practicing in the new Kovler Gym dance studio, this year's group began rehearsing with 20 members in December.

Performing at four basketball games and the Parents Association's fundraiser "Connections," the girls are now preparing for the Columbia College Young Artist Showcase Friday, April 6.

Participating annually in the Showcase has given the Troupe both a memorable experience each year and the opportunity to work with choreographers and dance instructors who come to the school as part of an associated artist-in-residence program.

Hearing insulting responses about the Troupe's performance, the dancers feel

they don't get enough respect for their hard work.

"It was a lot of fun learning a new dance and just being able to dance a lot more often," Junior Sonia Sharma said. "It was really hard to learn the dance so quickly though, and many

people didn't appreciate the time put into it and said it was too short.

"I don't think people realize how much work we put in trying to get everyone synchronized and to learn the steps. Our audience seems to think it is a lot easier to put a dance together than it really is."

Advised by Lower School Teacher Donna McFarlane, the 20 members on this year's squad dwindled to eight after their last basketball game performance.

Several members still value the experience and stayed with the Troupe to perform at "Connections" alongside Cocaptains Becca Nichols, Bree Boulware, Chakka Reeves and Lindsay Strong, all seniors.

What they judged to be bad sound during their performances in Kovler Gym and the conception by some



Photo by Elizabeth Stigler

DANCE TROUPE PERFORMED for overflow crowds at boys' varsity basketball games.



Photo by Tess Lantos

### A really big show

ABOUT 670 Lower, Middle and High School students participated in the annual Gym Show, March 15 in Kovler Gym. The show offered a rousing, fast-paced parade of phys ed skills including fencing, adventure sports, social dancing and gymnastics. The students and parents who packed the gym reacted with frequent applause and cheers. With fellow Social Dance class members Eddie Camacho and Jessica Laser stepped lively to the beat of Jerry Lee Lewis' "Great Balls of Fire."

members of their audience that the Troupe is a novelty act, has proven frustrating for the dancers.

"Since the sound system was kind of messed up, people weren't able to fully enjoy the dance and we couldn't perform our best," Freshman Alexis Maule said. "We're also left at a slight disadvantage because the school will

only partially fund us, and the faculty doesn't seem to take us seriously.

"And we were all very disappointed that we got cut out of the Gym Show because we weren't a part of phys ed. In another sense I guess we were lucky because all of our captains were so devoted and talented and made the practicing and performing an overall great experience."

## Congratulations

to the Midway staff for its excellent work this year. We know the time, effort and courage involved in publishing this outstanding high school newspaper because we're a U-High Midway family. Best wishes for your remaining issues.



The  
**Stigler**  
Family

## Madness: A magnificent March tradition gets trampled

THE MOST SACRED tradition we observe here at U-High, watching the NCAA Basketball Tournament from the cafeteria, was totally disrespected this year. March Madness was reduced to March Mediocrity.

It wasn't that the games weren't exciting enough. Georgia State, Hampton and Kent State all reminded us why March Madness is an appropriate name.

The problem lies within our school, where preparation for these games was seriously overlooked.

It was 11 a.m., Mar. 15, the start of the first contests and not a single television was even setup in the cafeteria. Furthermore, it was not until 12:30 p.m. when the first television was brought to the scene. In years past, television sets were setup the night before to prevent this sort of tragedy.

Bad preparation aside, March Madness is a time where students and teachers alike "forget" any rules about gambling and enter their brackets into a pool. For once, seniors began to hear "What teams are going to the Final Four?" more than "Where did you apply to college?"

Thankfully, the television sets were in place just in time to see Gonzaga University upset the favored University of Virginia with the winning jumpshot in

the last 10 seconds of the game. U-Highers were shouting with joy, or, in my case, sitting in disbelief.

For the two days before spring break, students actually use the school's resources quite efficiently. They go to the computer lab to research their predictions, the Xerox machine to photocopy their brackets and the school's television sets to absorb the action.

Predicting the right teams requires as much good luck as knowledge of the sport. **Press Box** Kian Dowlatshahi



Usually, the winners of the pools are people who don't follow college basketball but who pick the teams with funny names.

As the tournament comes to a close, sanity is restored to the world of sports.

But for these three weeks, the games transcend the realm of sports. Even non-sports fans feel bad for the teams who play with heart but fall two or three... or twenty points short.

The NCAA basketball championship embodies the American Dream. It represents hard work, determination mixed in with a little good luck.

## Banquet honors outstanding athletes

Three Coaches' Award winners were honored at the Winter Sports Banquet March 9 in the cafeteria. Coaches' Awards go to athletes in recognition of excellence in athletics, sportsmanship and contributions to their teams.

After a highly-praised Italian buffet catered by Pizza Capri and homemade desserts, athletes, parents and coaches at the banquet were rewarded with a viewing of a season highlights video compiled by Athletic Director Karen Duncan.

By sport, Coaches' Award winners are as follows:

Boys' basketball, Junior Jason Marsh; girls' basketball, Senior Tiffany Northrop; j.v. girls' basketball (unofficial award from Coach Meghan Janda), Sophomore Jessica Walters; boys' swimming, Senior Joe Sellers.

Other awards announced at the banquet included the following:

ISL Girls' Basketball All-Conference: Senior Katie Shapiro, Junior Claire Stewart.

WNBA Sportsmanship Awards: Boys' varsity basketball, Coach Dan Dyrac; girls' varsity basketball, Senior Katie Spielberger.

"It's important that the administration is aware of what the students want and it's Student Council's obligation to tell them."  
—Senior Michelle Krohn-Friedson  
S.C. president



## Star shines

■ Grad continues basketball dream

By Noelle Bond  
Midway reporter

With her sore and bruised legs girdled by bags of ice and Saran Wrap propped up on the seat in front of her, Tai Duncan, 2000 U-High graduate, realizes she has an eight-hour bus ride ahead of her after a basketball game against Lawrence College in Wisconsin back to her college, Grinnell in Iowa.

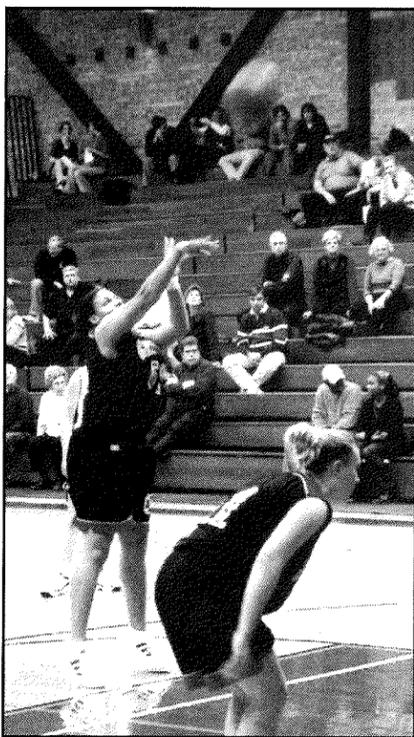
Tai played post on the women's basketball team this year at Grinnell and ended up 5th in rebounding in the Midwestern conference.

Although Tai played basketball all four years at U-High, she finds that playing college basketball is more physical than she expected.

"In high school, there's not half as much wear and tear as there is in college," Tai pointed out in a phone interview. "I found that after every game I ended up with way more bruises than I ever did in high school, and before games I was getting taped up and iced down."

"The girls who play me now are no longer just tall. They're now bigger and much stronger than I am and I take a lot of abuse."

"I don't care about the bruises and neverending bus rides to other Midwestern conference schools. I've been given this unique opportunity and I'm going to take advantage of it in every way possible without letting anyone stop me."



A FRESHMAN AT GRINNELL, 2000 U-High grad Tai Duncan shoots free throws for the lady Pioneers.

## A balanced sports agenda

IN A RECENT BOOK, "The Game of Life: College Sports and Educational Values," education experts James L. Schulman and William G. Bowen, discuss how colleges seem to be placing too much emphasis on athletics by recruiting too heavily and devoting too much time and money to athletics. As a result, academics seem to have fallen by the wayside. Although the book deals with the issue in the college world, could the same be applied to the U-High community? The answer, happily, is no.

Yet the school did just spend \$8 million on Kovler Gym and teams can be seen strutting around in their new uniforms.

This all reflects the fact that sports are becoming a bigger deal here at U-High.

Despite the amenities to U-High's athletic program, it hasn't thrown anything out of proportion. An overwhelming number of U-Highers participate in sports, regardless of whether they are in journalism, drama or other out-of-school obligations. But what's special about U-High is the unwavering balance between athletics and academics, that keeps sports in perspective. Student athletes don't waver in their commitment to their classes merely because they devote a hefty portion of their time to a sport.

Sports contribute to making U-High a well-rounded place. They don't threaten the focus of the school. In a college interview I was asked if I thought U-High was an "intellectual boot camp." I promptly disagreed. Sports have always been a part of my U-High life, so it's natural that I felt this is a well-rounded school. And now that U-High's emphasis on sports seems to be growing, so do the school's steps toward making it an even better balanced place.

Side Lines

Elizabeth Stigler



## S.C. delivers p.e. credit petition

By Jules Federle  
Associate editor

Encouraged by student support Student Council delivered a letter and petition to administrators on March 16 requesting they reconsider changing physical requirements to exempt sports team members from physical education classes.

"We originally planned for the letter and petition to be delivered to administrators by the end of February," said Student Council President Michelle Krohn-Friedson, senior. "But students, even some teachers,

approached S.C. members to sign the petition. We wanted to be able to allow every student and teacher who was interested in signing the petition the opportunity to do so. When we delivered the petition we had approximately 450 signatures.

"The spread in the Midway brought many issues regarding the problems we've been having with administrators to light," Michelle added. "We got the idea for the petition after students kept asking S.C. members what could be done to help the student cause."



You want a pickle with that?

Sim Khalidi

Photo by Jennifer Sydel

# 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.

# Get the perfect set of wheels for Spring!



Looking for a easy way to get around this spring, Senior Ameer Saleh decides to go to Wheels & Things to browse through their great selection of performance bikes at affordable prices!



Checking out the handles of a miniature Dyno bike and sporting a crucial Pedros hat, Ameer finds all the accesories he needs including a huge water bottle for those long trips down the lakefront and even a tight pair of gloves!

Content with his purchase, Ameer salutes the kind and helpful employees of Wheels & Things. He knows he'll make several return visits for all his biking needs or even just to chat about the newest models! Drop in to Wheels & Things today and they can help **YOU** find everything you need!



*Photos  
by  
Jennifer  
Sydel*



## ≡ WHEELS & THINGS ≡

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