71 grad to address '01 grads

California law professor headed Student Council

By Bree Boulware
Midway reporter

Returning to U-High on the 30th anniversary of his own graduation, a prominent Constitutional law expert will address the Class of 2010 graduates. The ceremony will commence 2:30 p.m., Thursday, June 7 at Rockefeller Chapel, 59th street at Woodlawn avenue.

A graduate of Northwestern University and Harvard Law School, University of Southern California Prof. Erwin Chemerinsky was recently profiled in a major feature in the Los Angeles Times for his expertise on issues ranging from constitutional law and for his leading roles in Los Angeles civic affairs and support of civil rights, affirmative action, gay rights and abortion rights.

Mr. Chemerinsky's political roots go back to his presidency of the Student Council senior year. When administrators made several decisions without consulting the Council, as school rules required for areas such as off-campus privileges. Mr. Chemerinsky established a committee to reexamine the role of student government which resulted in establishment of an administrative Student Committee on Rules.

Student speakers and musical performers for commencement are still being determined, but among student speakers definitely will be Senior Class President Amy Gorun.

Music Teacher Gary Smith will provide processional and recessional music on the gigantic Rockefeller organ, with the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance" by Edward Elgar opening the ceremony and "Rigaudon" by André Camapora closing it.

Marching in from the back of the chapel, seniors in maroon robes, will be followed by Lab Schools Board members, administrators and faculty members in black robes and mortar boards, with hoods and cowl signifying by their color the school from which they graduated and their degree.

Lab Schools Director Lucinda Lee Katz and Principal Jack Knapp will greet the graduates with selected administrators, faculty members and Board members announcing each graduate and presenting diplomas.

The class has selected several recipients of honorary diplomas, but their identities will be kept secret until the ceremony. An honorary diploma will be dedicated to class member Vikram Rupani, who died in an art therapy accident while on vacation with his family in 1997.

For the first time, the reception following the ceremony will take place at the U. of C. Quad Club, 1153 E. 57th St. An honorary black-tie dinner with selected administrators, faculty members and Board members announcing each graduate and presenting diplomas.

Voting for Prom Queen and King will take place during the evening. "After the coronation the Queen and King will dance and dress everyone else will join us," said Assistant to the Principal Tom Minelli, prom adviser. "We also are supposed to have a slide show that Mike Drew and Sola Oni are putting together." We asked all seniors to bring four pictures to be included in the show.

Photo albums will provide souvenirs for promgoers, said Senior Class President Amy Gorun. "We decided to get photo albums," she explained, "because we felt that pictures were a main part of moving on and being able to remember memories and laugh about them." Many seniors are planning preprom and postprom activities, some sponsored by parents, and some couples plan to arrive and depart in limousines, a glamorous touch the takeout fish won't be able to enjoy.

Among commencement speakers at Rockefeller Chapel

Among commencement speakers at Rockefeller Chapel.

Something's fishy about senior prom

By Debbie Trumb
Midway reporter

Something fishy will be evident at this year's Senior Prom, 7 p.m., Friday, June 1. For the first time, the evening of fancy fashions, dining and dancing will take place at the world-famous Shedd Aquarium. The Friday date, rather than the usual Saturday, resulted from the Aquarium's schedule.

Who will be in the most colorful dress and who will watch whom with the most interest—the promgoers or the fish—is an open question, but the Aquarium was the definite choice of seniors for the evening among several choices.

In a setting of gigantic fish tanks, seniors will start the evening with hors d'oeuvres (presumably not including beluga caviar) then dine at 8 p.m. on a dinner including a choice of chicken or filet mignon for the main course and chocolate cake for dessert.

Dancing will follow in the Shedd's large lobby, with music provided by U-High favorite High Flyn' Entertainment.

Founded Renaissance

Retiring teacher will reclaim 'first passion'

By Bree Boulware
Midway reporter

Surrounded by vibrant paintings and magazine layouts, Fine Arts Department Chairperson Joan Koblick speaks enthusiastically of focusing fulltime on her first passion, art, after retiring from the school next month.

"I'm establishing a studio space in my home for my art work," Mrs. Koblick said. "I mainly do work with water based paints. I'll eventually exhibit my work. At first it will be slow, but my intention is to work on my art fulltime."

A New Yorker, Mrs. Koblick came to the Lab Schools as a Lower School teacher in 1970. Her daughter Rebecca graduated and their degrees.

Among commencement speakers at Rockefeller Chapel

In a setting of gigantic fish tanks, seniors will start the evening with hors d'oeuvres (presumably not including beluga caviar) then dine at 8 p.m. on a dinner including a choice of chicken or filet mignon for the main course and chocolate cake for dessert.

Dancing will follow in the Shedd's large lobby, with music provided by U-High favorite High Flyn' Entertainment.

Founded Renaissance

Retiring teacher will reclaim 'first passion'

By Bree Boulware
Midway reporter

"I find that when I'm teaching, it takes the same creative energy as when I'm making art," Mrs. Koblick said. "In art, everything is disorganized and the challenge is to organize it. Teaching works the same way. You have to take a body of information and present it in a logical way."

Among Mrs. Koblick's numerous innovations at U-High was creating the art and literary magazine Renaissance, which went on to repeatedly place among the top six rated publications in the nation in annual competitions.

"I started Renaissance in 1980 when we had few students in the high school make prints and I thought we should publish some," she explained. "I got together with a former teacher, Sophie Rabin, and she volunteered to collect literature and we put together the magazine.

"At first we were just having fun and enjoying the complete freedom to experiment. It started out as a very naive publication. As the years have gone by, we've computerized it and it's really turned into a highly sophisticated magazine."

In recent years Mrs. Koblick has advised the magazine with Foreign Language Teacher Steve Farve.

"She gives us a lot of freedom to do what we want," said Junior Walker Thisted, Renaissance coordinator-in-chief. "She allows Renaissance to be our magazine, but she also guides us. She always has very strong opinions and she's never afraid to tell you if your art is bad."

"Or good," added Mrs. Koblick.

(Mrs. Joan Koblick is a prominent Constitutional law expert who will address the Class of 2010 graduates at Rockefeller Chapel. She is retiring after many years at U-High and will reclaim her first passion, art. A native New Yorker, Mrs. Koblick came to the Lab Schools as a Lower School teacher in 1970. Her daughter Rebecca is a 1980 U-High graduate who went on to study at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Chicago."

"I'm establishing a studio space in my home for my art work," Mrs. Koblick said. "I mainly do work with water based paints. I'll eventually exhibit my work. At first it will be slow, but my intention is to work on my art fulltime."

"One of the advantages over Ida Noyes Hall is that the Quad Club is air conditioned," said Mrs. Ronna Newman, planning committee member with Ms. Cathy Atlass and Mrs. Ann Comb."

The final week of school will kick off with the annual awards assembly, 9 a.m., Monday, June 4, for the first time also in Rockefeller Chapel. Science exams take place Tuesday and math exams Wednesday.

A senior luncheon noon Wednesday will precede graduation rehearsal. A trip to Great America in Gurnee is planned for that afternoon.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

The good book(s)

Best a good book is, everyone will be on the same page the opening day of school next fall. And speaking of books, the principal has his eyes on a potential title for summer reading. Pages 5 and 6.

Getting to the Point

A HYDE PARK landmark is in jeopardy and must be protected, some say. Page 11.
Michigan, George Washington top college list

By Abigail Newman and Debbie Traub
Associate editors

The top-ranking seniors' college destinations, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and George Washington University in Washington, D.C., will be attended by five seniors each. Last year Michigan also topped the list.

Forty-six percent of this year's class will attend schools in the East, 28 percent the Midwest, 18 percent the West and 8 percent the South.

"There is a tremendous concentration of highly competitive colleges on the East Coast," College Counseling Director Lisa Montgomery explained. "Our kids look at very competitive schools. If you look at New York or Pennsylvania, there are a couple hundred great schools in each."

By school, seniors plan to attend colleges as follows:

By Abigail Newman

Admissions race grows tougher

By Jessica Heyman

Many reporters

As have high school seniors across the nation, U-Highers this year found getting into the colleges they want harder than ever. A growing high school population with escalating standardized test scores is making the competition tougher than ever.

"More students are applying because more can afford to go to college," said Guidance Department Chairperson Patty Kovacs. "Also, the quality of student applicants is increasing. It was never a matter if students were viable or not. It's just that the applicant pool was higher."

Students also are finding applying easier, Patty Kovacs. But at the same time, colleges are keeping a close watch over freshman class size, which in some cases went beyond projections because more applicants actually arrived than predicted.

The assistant dean of admissions at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., where three U-Highers plan to attend, confirms those trends.

"Forty percent of our applicants used either the internet or the Common Application this year," Mr. Art Rodriguez said in a phone interview. "Last year we admitted 400 students, but our ideal class size is 380 to 390. We had to reduce our acceptances this year so we don't run out of beds."
A yearbook unlike any other previously published at U-High is promised by U-Highlights Editor-in-Chief Shilpa Gulati, junior, and her staff. They are working through mid-July completing the volume. The yearbook will be distributed in the fall. Class of 2001 graduates will receive letters at home including instructions on how to get a copy by mail or have one picked up at school. “We’re using a design and coverage plan we came up with ourselves,” Shilpa said. “Each spread is being designed individually and most cover a topic with more than one story. Also, the manner in which we are creating spreads allows for more creativity on the part of the editors.”

The yearbook’s cover will be different, too, Shilpa promised. “We’re keeping it a secret, but I’ve been told the kind of cover we’re planning hasn’t been used in a U-High yearbook in 40 years,” she explained. “It’s been too expensive. Our printer made it affordable for us this year.”

Taylor Publishing Co. of Dallas, Texas, which prints the book, has told the staff it will be ordering extra copies for its representatives to use for high school yearbooks across the nation. The 1999 and 2000 U-Highlights both won Pacemaker Finalist awards from the National Scholastic Press Association with unusual yearbook formats, said U-Highlights Adviser Wayne Michael Brasler. “I’ve been told Taylor wants to show staffs that yearbook journalism essentials and creative presentations can work together rather than being mutually exclusive.”

The yearbook will be organized into five traditional sections, including Life, Learning and Organizational Sports; People; and Community. The 2000 yearbook combined some of the sections. “The sections allow us to expand coverage of individuals, course work and student and faculty life outside the school day,” Shilpa said.

The yearbook staff produces the book on Saturdays during the school year along with work some afternoons and evenings. After the school year is over, work continues in six-day, 60-hour weeks into the summer until the book is completed. “It’s amazing, but no one ever complains about coming in,” Mr. Brasler said. “Except for the person who has to do the index.”

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In the IHSPA contest Junior Josh Joseph also won 1st-place for his editorial cartoon in the Jan. 30 issue on the absence of student participation in planning a new school. Other winners from the Midway staff were as follows:

IWPA—2nd place: News story, Natalie Hoy; sports story, Mike Lamb; cartoon, Shilpa Saleh.

ESIAPA—2nd place: News story, Natalie Hoy; sports story, Mike Lamb; cartoon, Enrique Lomnitz.

3rd place: Column, Amnaa Saleh; feature story, Mike Lamb; photography, Betsy Kolven.

The Midway won the most awards in the IWPA contest. It placed second in the EISPA contest for overall excellence and design.

National recognition has come to Seniors Mike Lamb, Midway editor-in-chief, and Apoorva Saleh, U-Highlights associate editor.

They have been named to the National Scholastic Press Association’s Honor Roll of High School Journalists. The honor is based on overall academic excellence, journalistic achievement and publications leadership. Reprint sales are nominated by their publishers advisers.
**Travels top summer plans**

By Nick Epstein and Debbie Traub

**Associate editors**

**Travelling to Australia, Europe and other destinations, U-Highers are heading far and wide for summer vacation. But some will just stay home.**

Headings to Australia, Freshmen Shira Peltzman and Susan Carlson will participate in an adventure program, "We're going to Australia for two weeks on an adventure trip called Rustic Pathways." Shira said, "We're going to be doing a lot of scuba diving and the best part is that we get to go skydiving from 60,000 feet up."

Also planning a trip to Australia, Sophomore Lara Steele will build houses for an Aboriginal tribe.

"It's going to be most of my time in Queensland, Australia, doing community service," Lara explained. "It's kind of like the Habitat for Humanity project, where I will build Teacher Carling a home for the Aboriginal people, a native tribe in Australia. I'll also do some sightseeing and I'm going to hike in the desert for three days."

Chilling in Greece with family for two weeks, then meeting up with friends, Sophomore Benji Fisher plans on enjoying most of his time at the beach.

"I'll be traveling around Greece just hanging out with my family until Nick Turek and Matt Wasik come for the third week that I'm there," Benji said.

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**Briefly**

Weekend becons alumni; reception salutes journalism

Members of the classes of 1941, 1951, 1961 and 1971 will return to the school for a reunion weekend Friday, June 1-sunday, June 3. Events include dinners; tours of Hyde Park, Kenwood and the University, and an all-class party with U. of C. President Don Michael Levin; a barbecue picnic; swimming; and tours of the city and White Sox game. The 57th Street Air Fair will take place the same weekend.

• A reception 6:30 p.m., Friday, June 1 at Ida B. Wells Hall will honor Journalism Teacher Wayne Eastright and celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Midway last year.

• HEAD HORCHS—Several new department chairpersons have been announced for next year in English; Fine Arts, Music, and Math Teacher Cathy Feldman.

• STUDENT REP—Junior Emma Attwood will again represent the students on the faculty Curriculum Committee. Her position in the class of 2004.

• RESTAURANT—Stefano Gennuso, who plans to open a new restaurant on 53rd Street, has announced a dinner featuring the school's renowned Italian cuisine. The dinner will be held on June 11.

• M Feather—A reception will be held at the Midway last year.

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Strutting down 57th street to his spot the Medici, Vincent Blackshadow bobs his head in excitement of getting his favorite dessert, a slice of apple pie a la mode! Luckily, Vincent had called the Medici earlier but they only had one last piece of pie left.

Unfortunately, Vincent's archrival, Stabmaster Wheelchair, was also on his way to the Medici for the last piece of pie! Soon a little scuffle ensued. Who will get the pie?

After Stabmaster gave Vincent a thorough beating, he felt bad for his archrival. Out of pure pity for his now beaten-down enemy, Stabmaster decided to share the last piece with Vincent! Both crazy cats were so happy to have their delicious treat from the Medici. And this was the beginning of a long and prosperous relationship!

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Photos by Emma Barber
In art, literature

Renaissance puts people in focus

By Daphne Maga

Midway reporter

People-centered art work and a generous offering of literature will distinguish this year’s edition of Renaissance, the school’s art and literary magazine. In 64 pages, Renaissance will offer 22 pieces of literature, 14 photographs, 27 pieces of art and a cover design incorporating mixed media and paper creating an abstract facial image. The cover was designed by Coeditor-in-Chief Walker Thisted, junior, who said he gained inspiration for his artwork through the magazine’s large selection of art depicting people.

“This year we’ve chosen to simplify the layout and focus heavily on the art and literature,” Walker said. “The magazine will be stronger because of the intrinsic strength of art and literature and overall diversity of ideas.”

With 11 pieces of poetry and 11 pieces of prose, Renaissance has almost doubled the prose of last year’s magazine, pointed out Foreign Language Teacher Steve Farver, literary adviser.

A C.D. presenting seven spoken word recordings chosen from literary pieces in the magazine and about 10 musical performances still being decided, will be offered. The 74-minute compilation was advised by Music Teacher Dominic Piane, who assisted in most of the recordings during the year. Middle School Drama Teacher John Biser directed the spoken-word portion of the C.D.

The magazine will be distributed when school resumes in September. Seniors will be mailed their copies or can pick them up at school, according to Art Teacher Joan Koblick, art and production adviser.

After serving 22 years as Renaissance adviser, Ms. Koblick is retiring. Saying she has had a fun time putting the publications together and working with the staffs, Ms. Koblick feels that this year’s Renaissance will prove the best.

“This has really been a gas, working with the students on Renaissance,” Ms. Koblick said. “It’s been one high after another. I also know that the magazine will continue to evolve and grow and maintain a standard of excellence. But I know that this one will be best.”

Using a large variety of colors on spreads and texts, Renaissance editors say they will try to convey a continuous scheme throughout the magazine in the layouts, art, literary works and music.

“We’ll be using the colors differently this year,” said Arts and Productions Board Member Alicia Zhou, junior. “We won’t just have a white page with black text throughout. There will be some pages that will have black text on white and some with white text on gray and so on. We are also going to try to keep a continuous scheme throughout the magazine, we plan on doing this by keeping a constant with the layout of art.”

Other editors-in-chief not previously mentioned are as follows:


Principal’s book traces history of diplomat

By Natalie Rekkouche

Midway reporter

Revealing a portion of 19th century history few people know, Principal Jack Knapp has a new book out titled “Behind the Diplomatic Curtain,” about one of France’s most important diplomats, Adolphe de Bourqueney. It has been nominated for an award by the Society for French Historical Studies. Published by The University of Akron Press, “Behind the Diplomatic Curtain” unravels its story in 344 pages. Mr. Knapp became interested in writing it when relatives of Bourqueney gave him access to documents which once belonged to the diplomat.

“I wrote most of the book on vacations and in Miami, where I used to live,” Mr. Knapp said. “I was inspired to write it because it was such a unique opportunity to have so many documents written by one of France’s most influential diplomats who was never written about before.

“I hope people will find the book interesting to read because it’s not only about the history of France, but also the story of a very important man.”

The book’s title was chosen by the editors. "I think things aren’t always what is behind it.”

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Parents, faculty praise programs on learning
By Rachel Greene

What traditionally have been considered learning deficiencies, researchers have found are learning differences. That was a major point offered by Dr. Mel Levine, chief of pediatrics at University of North Carolina and a leader in research into how people learn, in an evening program for parents April 23 and an all-day seminar for the faculty April 24.

Educators, Dr. Levine said, must learn to help each student work within his or her learning style. More than 300 parents attended the evening program and many found what Dr. Levine said revelationary.

"I always thought that the problems kids had were more black and white," said Dr. Vicki Greene, a psychologist and parent of Sophomore Rachel. "After all of the explanations he gave, I can really understand why students learn the way they do."

For the teachers' day, Sophomore Mauda Baggetto introduced Dr. Levine. "I think that it would have been really important for the kids to hear," Mauda said. "Especially for the kids with learning disabilities, like me. It was good seeing the school cares and is actually doing something about it."

After Dr. Levine came, I think a lot more people are interested and curious to learn more."

Ethics discussion yields suggestions
By Natalie Hay

Meeting each other with warm smiles and handshakes, parents, teachers and administrators introduced themselves to one another at an evening Parents' Association program May 10 in Judd 126.

This friendly atmosphere slowly turned somber as the 20 parents present fell silent as a mother stepped to the podium and the meeting convened.

"What can we do as parents?" the mother said, introducing the main question posed for the evening. The program was planned for discussion of what in its announcement was called the "hot topic" of cheating as well as related ethical and moral topics such as bullying the Association has been addressing.

A panel including Academic Dean Cathy Feldman and Faculty Chairperson Rosa McCallagh, math teachers; Dean of Students Larry McFarlane; College Counseling Director Lisa Montgomery; and Information Technology Director Curtis Lieneck took seats at a long table in the front of the room.

"We need to ask how we can be better parents," the mother continued. "And see other issues—bullying, meanness and stealing—which are part of this bigger picture that relates to cheating. This is all part of helping our kids to build better character."

While most of the discussion consisted of each panel member relating his or her experiences and knowledge about cheating to bring parents up to date, the final portion was open to parents' questions and discussion.

Faculty members and parents alike felt the roots of cheating begin as young as Middle School and that a more involved environment where all-school discussions are more prevalent would help address the situation.

"Definitions for words like cheating don't begin in high school," a parent said. "Perhaps workshops, conversations, speakers, retreats and entire school conversations would get the whole school together to approach topics. Kids come from Middle School cheating. As an association, we need to build togetherness to help our problems."

Others felt an honor code might effectively address cheating as a moral issue, with students signing a pledge of conduct and a commitment to report other students violating the pledge.

"An honor code might help," said Mr. McFarlane, who recently attended a conference including schools which successfully have implemented them.

"There has to be pride in the community and we hope this can evolve from one. It won't necessarily work, it will not eradicate cheating or stealing, but wonderful things could happen. An effective honor code can raise the consciousness of a moral center."

"The workshop was very helpful because I think the teachers have a new understanding for kids' different learning styles now."

—Guidance Counselor Bob Bachand

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Eva "Are we just another school competing for its open and liberal environment?" "If lies alike with his budget, Bush seems perfectly content to whistle for its race for the future. But that goes along with the system, continuing the goals set by Reagan's "Star Wars" initiative, to create a "shield" against nuclear assault. There's only one problem: the system won't work. The Air Force admitted that it had to lower testing standards to shoot down even one dummy warhead. If the bugs can be fixed, most experts still say the system will be unable to reach its goal by 2004 (coincidentally, just in time for reelection). By the time a working ABM system can be set up, space-based defenses will likely be underway, rendering it obsolete. If all else fails, the Bush plan provides little defense against biochemical weapons like Anthrax, which could decimate a major U.S. city faster than you can say "Saddam Hussein." Critics of the proposed plan have called it a "tomorrow" approach. It might frighten away a few birds, but it won't protect the crops. Given the character of our new President, it seems inappropriate to take the analogy one step further. Antagonizing enemies and allies alike with his budget, Bush seems perfectly content to whistle for his own brain" while threatening to spark an armament race for the new millennium.
Presenting (again) the new Janet Jackson

MAKING A 180 degree turn from her previous style of big curly hair, tight leather clothing and a srowning expression, Janet Jackson's image on the cover of her latest album "All For You" (Virgin Records) has evolved to straight hair, no clothing except for a white towel and a coy smile showing her transition from hard core to laid back.

While Jackson's previous release, "The Velvet Rope" (1997) offered songs about a night of passion in a rock tone, "All For You" reflects her older richer al-

bums and optimistic songs about parties, friends and love.

With 20 tracks, "All For You" offers six interludes, seven ballads and seven upbeat songs, including the number one single "Don't Really Matter" and "All For You."  

first track on the album, reflects a different part of Jackson's life.

For example, "Truth" describes her recent end of her secret marriage. Though Jackson has sold millions of records, she doesn't write or produce most of her songs and she evidently can't sing without technical aid or gigan-
tic instrumental accompaniment. Her greatest accomplishment may be still looking so young after seven al-

bums in 16 years. Of course, the face today seems considerably different from the face in the beginning.

Still, Jackson has gone beyond the pack of teen stars such as Will Smith and Leonardo DiCaprio and Christine Aguilera. Her music goes beyond being in love with some boy who doesn't necessarily feel the same way; they have genuine feel-

ing and emotion.

She's no "The Veil" but with each album, Janet manages to do it again; baby, one more time.

A wreck of a film

"Town & Country" just doesn't add up

OVERTY (TWING) with a star-studded cast, colorful cinematography and a variety of locations, the long-delayed comedy "Town & Country" (R), di-

rected by Peter Chelsom ("Hear My Song"), defies what you'd think would be the sum of its parts.

Without a discernable plot, with barely humorous jokes and relying on a script that doesn't give the actors much to work with, this film proves just tedious.

The problems start with the script, not even completed when filming began three years ago.

Then scheduling con-

flicts with actors delayed filming. In the end a film that badly needs consis-
tency seems thrown-together and poorly edited.

"Town & Country" is based on a con-

fusing theme. It appears that sexual in-
fidelity in marriage is considered a small offense, if at all. We meet Porter and Ellie Stoddard (Warren Beaty and Diane Keaton), a married couple just reaching their 25 year anniversary.

Porter decides to give adultery a try with a cellist, Alex (Nastassja Kinski). On a trip to San Valley with his friend Griffin (Gary Shandling), Porter meets Auburn (Jenna Elfman) and Eugene (Andie MacDowell).

Both women introduce Porter and Griffin to some unexpected experi-

ences. Auburn takes the two men to a party too wild for their own good and Eugene introduces Porter to her over-

protective parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claybourne (Charlton Heston and Marian Seldes).

Meanwhile, Port-

ter and Ellie try to save the marriage of their best friends, none other than Griffin and Mona (Goldie Hawn), who discover after 20 years of marriage Griffin isn't what (or who) he or they thought.

"Town & Country" has a vague simil-
io to "The First Wives Club" (1996), where Keaton and Hawn play wives of husbands who either leave them for younger women or cheat on them.

Perhaps that's one thing that works for this film: Keaton and Hawn have wonderful chemis-
	ry and pull off para-
noid, middled aged well.

All of the actors do their best in this film but the script doesn't give them much to work with.

Only one moment place "Town & Coun-

try" in the "comedy" cat-

egory: Charlton Heston armed with a rifle, ready for a shooting rampage at an awards dinner.

Finally being released after three years ad-
vanced publicity, this movie proves not worth the wait, wherever you live, town or country.
I'm of the live orchestra. That really brought life to the movie."

-Junior Alicia Zhou

from political experts Marcelo PaP.P. as ______ _

enjoyed an ethnic dinner related to the lectures by authorities on current events around the world at The Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. The lectures have included the Netherlands, Spain, Ireland, Germany, Colombia, and Japan.

"Since it was a small group of about 25 people all sitting eating dinner together, it was almost like a large family party," said Freshman Steve Dorsev, who attended a lecture on Spain. "It really was a great experience because I wasn't afraid to ask questions."

Freshman Noor Shawaf, who also attended the Spain lecture, found that the dramatic dialogue of the speaker and the ability to ask questions was productive. The interactive dialogue made it a more interesting experience. Since the speaker was so knowledgeable about Spain, his dramatic presentation made it a very powerful lecture. It was better than anything I could read in a newspaper and it helped me learn more about the nation and the issues that were going on."

After attending one lecture, Freshman Alexis Maule decided to attend a second lecture on a country other than her current events country.

"My first experience with the Council was so beneficial that I decided to sign up for a second time," said Alexis, who attended both Poland and Latin-American lectures. "The economical problems in all the Latin-American countries were discussed, which really helped my current events."
**Community**

**Park District alters plans for The Point**

By Jordann Zachary
Associate editor

Compromising with the Community Task Force on its $22 million Promontory Point rehabilitation project for next year, the Chicago Park District has agreed to incorporate the citizen's construction concerns in their final plans for the rehabilitation.

Months of negotiations between the Chicago Park District and the Community Task Force ensued regarding the Park District's plan to replace the deteriorating limestone seawall at Promontory Point with a slab, concrete wall. The Task Force also fought to reduce the height of the new wall.

The original plan called for replacing the current 55th street peninsula's jagged limestone wall with a smooth, concrete revetment. In addition, visible, steel pillars were to be erected to support the revetments, replacing the current wooden ones.

The new construction would be modeled after the stretch of lakefront from 51st to 54th street which has already undergone the same rehabilitation.

A no-swimming policy in the water off of the Point was to be put in effect as well, making swimming in the water off of The Point illegal.

After the Park District announced its rehabilitation plans for the Point, unsatisfied Hyde Parkers formed the Community Task Force.

A group of about 30 volunteer Hyde Park residents, with the support of Fifth Ward Ald. Leslie Hairston (U-High), the Community Task Force assembled to express the concerns of the community regarding the construction and fight for the preservation of The Point.

"Our three main concerns about The Point were good quality esthetics, meaning preserving the natural beauty, water access and the construction schedule," said Mr. Peter Rossi, executive committee member of the Community Task Force and father of Junior Emily.

Concerning the esthetics, we wanted the reuse of the original limestone in front of and behind of the revetments and a reduction in the size of the revetments.

"We also asked that the original plan for the Point to be closed for two years be modified and have the construction in phases so the whole area is not closed all at once. Swimming is now permitted as well on the south side of The Point."

Offering alternative designs, promoting awareness and remaining vigilant proved successful in making the community's concerns heard and met on this issue, Mr. Rossi said.

"We drafted different designs for the construction of The Point, contacted outside engineers who examined the city's plans, showed how theirs were faulty and why ours were better."

"We also brought this issue to the attention of the media, including The Reader, The Chicago Tribune and The Herald."

"Our alderman Leslie Hairston went to the max for us and even contacted the mayor for us whom sent down one of his aids to inspect the situation. He listened to our concerns and promised to voice them to the mayor."

Aside from details of construction, such as having the top two steps of the new wall be made of limestone, the Park District has agreed to fulfill the Community Task Force's requests, although nothing has been finalized.

"The Park District has met most of our concerns," Mr. Rossi said, "and I am pleased with the progress, but I won't be satisfied until it is built."

**Making their bow**

By Noelle Bond
Midway reporter

A teenage girl on the brink of high school graduation enters the ornate ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel Sunday June 3 with her male escort in a white tuxedo. Her floating white formal gown is reminiscent of a wedding dress. She is ready to make her social debut at the 41st annual Links Chicago Illinois Chapter Cotillion, a formal presentation preceded by a sit-down dinner. In addition to the presentation of the debutantes, each of whom makes a full-court bow, the theme this year is "Night of Shining Stars."

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**Midway reporter Alec Strickling contributed to this story.**
School violence concerns continue

Columbine date generates dread

By Keir Harris and Rob Wile
Midway reporters

A wave of incidents in schools across the nation on the second anniversary of the massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., April 20, have bolstered educators' fears that the day will become an annual occasion for threats of violence.

Though schools have taken precautionary measures since the shootings at Columbine, according to media reports, bomb threats and student shootings still pose a threat across the nation.

Following two weeks of bomb threats, more than 70 percent of the 3,600 students at Waukegan High School in North Suburban Waukegan, didn't come to school April 20.

Prior to the date, three students at Waukegan have been arrested for allegedly planting "explosive" devices in a washroom, according to Mr. Stan Zoller, English teacher at the school's 9th grade center. Mr. Zoller told the Midway that many faculty members learned of the situation through the news media rather than communication in the school.

At Blair High School in Blair, Neb., a student was suspended after claiming kinship to the two Columbine murderers, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, and threatened to terrorize the Blair student body, according to Journalism Teacher Bob Blair. More than half of the 725 students were absent although no violence occurred.

At Hinsdale Central High School in west suburban Hinsdale, the April 20 issue of the school's paper, The Devil's Advocate, was not distributed because Principal Jim Ferguson objected to a front page feature on violence in schools and school safety.

Mr. Ferguson objected to the graphic images of an armed student and an article headlined, "Getting a Gun," according to Advocate Adviser Linda Kennedy. Mr. Ferguson saw a copy of the paper before publication by chance and gave the Advocate the choice to remove the violent images or eliminate the issue.

The editors chose not to make the changes, feeling their coverage was serious and valid. Mr. Ferguson halted distribution and the 2,200 copies printed destroyed. The Advocate staff has decided to publish the paper on the internet.

Mr. Kennedy told the Midway the page posed no threat.

"There was another story headlined, 'Scared of School?' which was to get the kids to think about how they treat others and the atmosphere here," she explained. "The story was about the way people treat each other, whether or not they feel the school is safe. The students thought it was an 'in your face' topic and the images were important. They were not trying to sensationalize. They thought the images would get people to think about and read the stories. Although there was a sidebar comparing the two schools: Hinsdale Central and Columbine, it wasn't a story about potential threats."

Emergency, lockdown plan due in fall

By Rob Wile
Midway reporter

An emergency plan for the school including a lockdown procedure should be completed by fall, says Lab Schools Associate Director David Stafford.

"The plan will cover everything," Mr. Stafford said. "Tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, bomb threats, terrorist attacks, floods, or any other emergency that might arise. It will provide instructions for teachers on what to do in whatever situation happens to be occurring."

Mr. Stafford said. "The plan will cover everything," Mr. Stafford said. "Tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, bomb threats, terrorist attacks, floods, or any other emergency that might arise. It will provide instructions for teachers on what to do in whatever situation happens to be occurring. It will also deal with lockdown instructions, which is something new to us, and what to do in case of a utility emergency."

A five-person committee consisting of faculty and staff members has been formed to oversee the plan, but Mr. Stafford will design the final version.

"I've contacted all kinds of schools to see what their plans look like and I've also received many sample plans in creating our school's plan," Mr. Stafford said.

"The Cranbrook School outside of Detroit, Michigan, has been the school everyone has looked to for help in designing their plans. Their plan seems to be the most effective for schools similar to ours. I've also been working with about a half dozen other schools in designing the plan. Once it is finished, it will be submitted to the Police Department and the University Safety Commission for approval."
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Our record does not reflect the talent we have as a team. Sometimes we get tired in the second half and our opponents come from behind and beat us." -Junior Jordann Zachary, girls' varsity soccer forward

Battlin’ baseball Maroons end disappointed, 2nd place in league

By Marty Kinsella

Midway reporter

For boys’ varsity baseball (11-9 overall, 8-2 ISL), the season ended the way it began. After finishing 2nd in the Independent School League, the team suffered another disappointment, a 3-2 loss at Hales Franciscan May 15 in Washington Park in the first round of Regionals.

The Maroons previously had lost to the Spartans in their season opener, a 9-3 defeat March 29. Despite the loss, the U-Highers optimistically felt they had improved significantly during the six weeks since the first meeting between the Maroons and Spartans.

“We had one bad inning where they scored after we made an error,” Varsity Coach Tom Flane said. “In a close game like that, there is no room to make even the smallest mistakes. Other than that, we played an excellent defensive game, but our offense didn’t come through when we had a chance to tie the game in the final inning.”

Added Senior Joe Sellers. “We had great pitching the entire game. Unfortunately, we had some bad luck with our offense and we squandered opportunities to score. Even though Hales Franciscan beat us earlier in the season, we had improved enough to beat them, but we fell a little short.”

U-High’s 2nd-place finish in the ISL represented a particular disappointment because the Maroons have won the ISL championship for the past five seasons. Their only ISL game setbacks this year came in a pair of midseason losses to eventual 1st-placer Latin.

“The Latin games were crucial to our season,” said Junior Josh Levine. “It was a huge letdown to lose and it had a lasting effect on the team for the rest of the season.”

Junior Jordann Zachary contributed to this story.

Soccer girls try for bright finale

By Kian Dowlatshahi

Sports editor

Going into their Regional home match against Bloom last Friday (results after Midway deadline), the 9-8 varsity soccer girls hoped to give a positive final spin to an up-and-down season.

The Maroons finished the regular season with two consecutive wins, a 5-1 triumph at Elgin Academy May 11 and a 5-3 victory against Mother Guerin May 14 at home.

“Our team is used to winning,” said Senior Anmie Padrido, captain. “The most disappointing aspect of the regular season was handling the losses. The games were played really well for the most part.”

The team fell short of defending its Independent School League title from last year, losing twice against Latin, 6-1 May 1 away and 3-1 May 10 at home. Some players, however, maintain that they didn’t lose these games because the team lacked talent.

“Our record does not reflect the talent we have as a team,” said Junior Jordann Zachary. “Sometimes we got tired in the second half and the other team come from behind to beat us.”

Storming through the ISL schedule, J.V. clinched the league title with a 2-1 win against Latin, May 10 at home.

“We got better with fundamentals,” J.V. Coach Mike Moses said. “We learned quite a bit about strategic plays, we played well as a group, and showed a lot of enthusiasm.”

Editor’s note: Midway reporter Daphne Magana contributed to this story.
Runners, hopes go to State
By Nick Hill

Sending Sophomore Becky Levine to State along with the girls’ 4 x 800-meter relay team, lady tracksters were aiming to make the top five in three events last weekend at state. The 4 x 800-meter relay team consists of Senior Elizabeth Stigler, Juniors Shelly Carr and Jessica Sklarsky and Freshman Laurel Brehm. Dominating her competition at Sectionals May 12 at Lisle, Becky qualified for the 1600-meter and 3200-meter run at the State meet. Qualifying for the 1600-meter and 3200-meter relay last year, Becky felt prepared for this year.

“I took first place for the 1600 at Sectionals, but I was a little disappointed after losing the lead and placing second in the 3200,” Becky said. “I am really happy that the girls’ 3200-meter relay qualified for State also. I’m hoping to place in the top five at State both the 1600 and 3200.”

The girls clinched the ISL title May 8 at Lake Forest Academy by dominating the meet with a score of 153 points.

“We came into the meet expecting to compete well,” said Junior Jessie Sklarsky, co-captain with Junior Shelly Carr. “We had been performing well all year and the ISL meet was no exception.”

Boy tracksters, who placed 3rd at the ISL meet, suffered injuries to all three team captains, but were able to overcome injuries with numbers, recruiting nine newcomers this season.

“This was more less a rebuilding year for the team,” said Senior Jackson Cheung, co-captain with Senior David Hanek.

TENNISMEN look for trip to State
By Rian Dowlatshahi

Entering Sectionals last Friday and Saturday at Oak Lawn, varsity tennismen (12-1, 6-0 ISL) hoped not only to qualify all six players for State on an individual basis, but also to win the tournament as a team.

Both singles players and doubles teams could qualify for the State Tournament, Thursday-Saturday at northwest suburban Hersey High School, by reaching semifinals at Sectionals. Varsity Coach Gerald Hanck felt confident going into Sectionals (results after Midway deadline) that the team would take home the title and qualify for State.

“Last season, we qualified two doubles teams and a singles player,” Mr. Hanck said. “Based on that, I felt pretty good about doing even better this year, now that we have most of the team playing again this year. I told the team all season that we could qualify everyone to State, it was just a matter of playing well.”

The Maroons cruised through the regular season, capturing tournaments at Evanston April 7 and Lockport April 21 and the ISL Tournament May 11-12 at Waveland, while placing 3rd of 16 at the Rock Island Invitational May 4-5.

“We competed well in the big tournaments,” said Senior Robbie Willoughby. “At Rock Island, for example, we played well against some of the top schools in the state, earning recognition as a strong team.”

Upending the competition throughout the regular season, capturing tournaments at Evanston April 7 and Lockport April 21 and the ISL Tournament May 11-12 at Waveland, while placing 3rd of 16 at the Rock Island Invitational May 4-5.

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Photos by Emma Barber

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