

# U-High MIDWAY

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Photo by Jeremy Handrup

Student Council presidential candidate Dan Hornung, junior, and Cultural Union presidential candidate Alya Forster, junior. Both are running unopposed.

## Mostly unopposed, candidates outline visions for government

By Nathan Bishop  
Midway reporter

Creating an all-school e-mail list to keep U-Highers updated on Student Council plans tops goals for Junior Dan Hornung, S.C. presidential candidate. Forming a calendar of Cultural Union events at the beginning of the year represents the main priority for Junior Alya Forster, C.U. presidential candidate.

Elections take place all day tomorrow in the cafeteria outside Dean of Students Larry McFarlane's office. Candidates gave speeches at lunch today in the cafeteria.

Serving as class president his freshman and sophomore years, Dan ran unopposed for this year's S.C. vice president position. He was also a Peer Leader and a varsity basketball cocaptain. In the summer of '04, Dan volunteered for Illinois Senator Barack Obama's Senatorial campaign and this summer he plans to intern for Obama's Presidential campaign.

"The first thing we will do is go into the e-mail list we already have for the Class of '08 and make sure everybody's e-mail address is up to date," Dan explained. "For the current sophomore class if there is already a preliminary list of e-mail addresses we will use those; if not we will create one. We will do the same for the current freshman class.

"Next year for upcoming freshmen we will get e-mail addresses directly from students around the second week of school or hopefully I can get Mr. McFarlane to agree to put a little note in the August mailing asking all freshmen for his or her e-mail addresses.

"I also want to try to get more students to come to games, plays, concerts and other things like that around the school. In order to increase attendance we have been putting notes in the Daily Bulletin and for years we have been trying to get teachers to read the Bulletin first period, but most don't. Signs sometimes work but most U-Highers are always rushing somewhere with their heads buried in their books."

A C.U. representative her sophomore and junior years, Alya is also a Midway and U-Highlights photographer.

"I've been looking at what we've done in the past and one thing I feel strongly about is that we have to start planning things earlier," Alya said. "We need to have an outline of events we want to do in the year. This outline can be changed of course but we need to have it there to guide our planning."

I'd like to organize more breakfasts in the morning; simple things like that are just fun and really nice for everyone in the school. Next year I'd like to see an all-school Six Flags trip, which is something we have not done in a while and everyone really enjoys."

Reflecting on this year's events, Dan said that Student Council's plan to create the annual student course book, a collection of students' opinions on classes, was never compiled because of disagreement within Student Council.

"Half of Student Council thought it was necessary and the other half thought it was a waste of time and money," Dan said. "We wasted way too much time arguing about it and eventually we did decide to do it but couldn't get our act together in time to get it done. I will make the promise that next year we will poll the student body's opinions and find out if they think the course guidebook should be done and if they want it then we will get it done."

U-Highers may be surprised by the short list of candidates on the ballot with Dan and Alya running unopposed. In the race for various class president positions, only Junior Robert Strickling runs unopposed.

Serving his freshman and sophomore year as vice president for the Class of '08 and this year as president, Robert is running for senior class president.

"We already have a paintball trip in the works," Robert said. "I plan to continue events like that, things that are of interest to a large portion of the grade. For the past two years we have had two extremely successful bowling nights, as well as ice skating events and free lunches and we plan to continue those and even more events next year."

Running for junior class president against Sophomore Denise Akuamoah, current sophomore vice president Ciara Zagaja believes her past experience will help next year.

"Hopefully next year we can get dances somewhere else besides the I-House," Ciara said. "I think this year especially more than last year we have focused upon forums that encourage people who aren't on Student Council to come and give their opinions, so it isn't just students on Student Council who are getting involved in the school."

Denise hopes to finally be elected in her third year running.

(continues on page 4)

## Golden Apple winner wears new distinction with natural ease



By Cydney Weiner  
Associate editor

Although he said he could care less about fashion, Science Teacher David Derbes may soon need to pull out his spiffy Burberry jacket (which he said he got a great deal on), trade his usual black New Balances for loafers and leave the green calculator that resides in his left back pocket at home.

While he might not be thrilled, perhaps winning the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching last month is reason enough to change his wardrobe to attend a ceremony 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 12 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The televised ceremony will debut at 8 p.m., Thursday, May 31 on WTTW, Channel 11.

Receiving \$3,000, a computer and a sabbatical at Northwestern University next fall, Mr. Derbes said he doesn't know who nominated him but has his suspicions.

"There'll be a big dinner, like a big bru-hah-hah," Mr. Derbes explained. "And there they'll give me a cute little golden apple suitable for throwing at students who misbehave in class."

Founded in 1985 by Mike Koldyke, a former teacher, the Golden Apple Foundation annually awards 10 Chicago area educators after an Awards Selection Committee observes finalists. This year, 32 finalists were chosen from 941 nominated teachers.

Upon hearing he was a finalist in January, Mr. Derbes said he made a promise to his wife, the artist Clairan Ferrono.

"I was nominated three years ago and it didn't work out," Mr. Derbes said. "But this time I promised my wife that if I won I would take a year off from teaching to finish writing a high school physics book I've begun."

Committed to representing the faculty—he played a leading role in the news making vote of no confidence against a former director—Mr. Derbes is currently serving his first year as Faculty Association president. Although he feels conflicted about taking a year away, Mr. Derbes said he will definitely return for the 2008-2009 school year.

In a recent interview after school in the Science Department conference room, where floor to ceiling windows overlook the Japanese garden, Mr. Derbes' (continues on page 5)

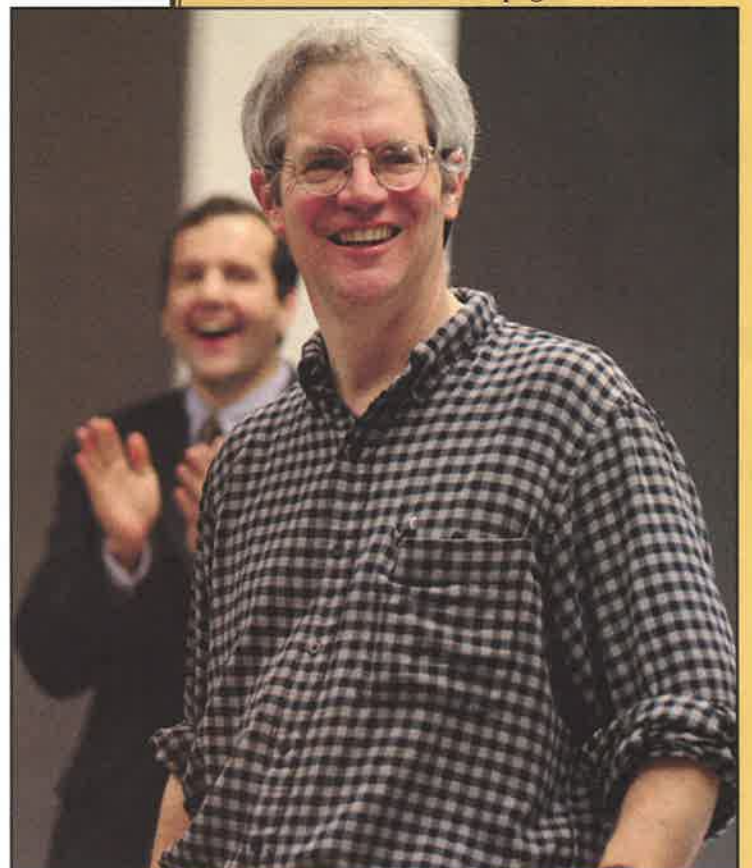


Photo by Ramzi Dreessen

Colleagues and students applauded Science Teacher David Derbes when he received the Golden Apple Award during his first period A.P. Physics B class in March.

## On the inside

More student government election candidates.....4  
Freedom of expression battles continue.....6  
A U-High photographer with a special eye.....11  
Spring team talent in the spotlight.....14-15



**"Our guest speaker, an Auschwitz survivor, is truly inspirational. I'm really excited to hear her phenomenal story."**  
—Adina Levin, senior



## Assembly honors Holocaust victims, survivors, significance

By Linda Huber  
Midway reporter

Sharing her experiences narrowly escaping the gas chambers, Auschwitz survivor Fritzie Fritzhall highlighted yesterday's Holocaust assembly in Mandel Hall sponsored by the Jewish Students' Association.

JSA has organized the assembly biannually since 1995 to observe Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, and to educate students about Jewish culture and history. Traditionally, the assembly has included student performances and a guest speaker.

"I was put in touch with Fritzie Fritzhall, who is actually a very famous and very noted speaker," said JSA President Adina Levin, senior. "She was 14 when she was in Auschwitz; she was the age of a freshman. She escaped during one of the marches from the camps by chance. It was the middle of winter, she didn't have shoes and there was snow on the ground. It's a truly amazing story."

In addition to individuals who came forward during March auditions, student club representatives participated in the 90-minute assembly.

"Queer-Straight Alliance, Feminists' Club, Asian Students' Association, Amnesty International and Latinos Unidos all contributed," Adina said. "Their pieces showed the universality of the message of human genocide. The assembly involved the whole U-High community. The Holocaust isn't just exclusive to one group; it touches everyone's heart."

Poetry, original speeches and excerpts from Holocaust literature resonated the theme of hope for all humans to live together in peace.

"Addie Epstein and Becca Marks sang 'Hail Hail,' one of the most beautiful statements of faith and hope ever heard," said JSA sponsor Susan Shapiro, history teacher. "Also, during the assembly we had a performance which dealt with the issue of liberation; part of that was a 1945 recording of a Jewish service that took place at Bergen-Belsen immediately after it was liberated with people barely able to stand singing along and sobbing openly."

Several presentations established a somber, respectful mood for the memorial service, Adina reflected.

"Amy Solomon and Molly Schloss put together a film of images from the Holocaust to set the tone at the assembly's beginning," she said. "And throughout the whole assembly we had the Reading of the Names, where we read off the names of hundreds of thousands of children who died in the Holocaust."



Photo by Alya Forster

## Author speaks about black males in America

"Tyrone is many things to many people, viewed through the lens of popular culture. Tyrone is a smooth talker, a dreamer, a pimp, a thug and a revolutionary. As the singer Erykah Badu put it, Tyrone is a 'brother tainted by association.'"

So said Natalie Moore, journalist and co-author with Natalie Hopkinson of "Deconstructing Tyrone: A New Look at Black Masculinity in the Hip-Hop Generation." Her appearance, March 29, was sponsored by the Black Students' Association and Rowley Library. About 20 people attended.

Using the imaginary character Tyrone as a metaphor for the black males of America, Ms. Moore talked about black masculinity and public perception, the dilemmas of gay black men as well as sexism and misogyny in hip-hop culture and black men and women in the corporate world. After her talk, Ms. Moore took questions from the audience, most of them about the merits of hip-hop's effect on popular culture and its effect on mainstream perceptions of the African American community, particularly males.

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## New Task Force forming to oversee diversity issues

By Jeremy Lacocque  
Editor-in-Chief

Early next month, Lab Schools Director David Magill is scheduled to select members for a Diversity Task Force, designed to advise school policies on diversity.

Recommended by Diversity Consultant Prexy Nesbitt in his report released in February, the Task Force will include six parents, four faculty members, two U-Highers, one staff member and two alumni.

Lab Schools Board Members Andrew Neal, 1978 U-High graduate, and Sonya Malunda, U. of C. assistant vice president and director of community affairs, will serve as chairpersons. Also advising will be Ms. Angela Park, a consultant who helps businesses with diversity issues, and Kenneth Warren, U. of C. deputy provost for research and minority issues.

The group is scheduled to begin work May 12. The application deadline came last Monday.

"At the first Diversity Task Force meeting, we will begin planning our work and begin creating a Diversity Statement," Mr. Magill explained. "It seems that hav-

ing people nominate themselves is the best way to gather people so far. If more than one person applies for the same position, I will probably then decide based on the quality of his or her application.

"To be honest, the number of people in the group is quite arbitrary. I tried to have each part of the Schools' community proportionately represented. I feel that a good group would have around 20 people in it before it starts getting too hard to communicate and this one has 22, so I'm happy.

"The Task Force's job, as Prexy Nesbitt suggested in his study's report, will be to oversee fundraisers for scholarships to allow for more socioeconomic diversity, to advise admissions policies and basically oversee and advise anything that would help diversify the school.

"I also hope to involve the University as much as possible. So far, we have the honor of having Kenneth Warren help the group. The University, especially since they're a bigger institution than the Lab Schools are, will have dealt with diversity issues more often than we have and will be able to give us guidance."

## Faculty day focuses on science

By David McAlpine  
Associate editor

Some faculty members viewed and discussed Al Gore's Academy Award winning documentary "An Inconvenient Truth." Others learned how science and the arts relate through improvisational exercises during last Friday's Faculty Professional Development Day.

Titled "Doing and Thinking: Getting to the Heart of Science," and coordinated by History Teacher Andrea Martonffy and English Teacher Catherine Bell, the day focused on science. A keynote program by Martha Rosner, University of Chicago biology and physiology professor, and her husband, Robert Rosner, astronomy, physics and astrophysics professor, focused on learning as a lifetime process of discovery as opposed to the mere gather-

ing of facts.

Teachers followed with a panel on teaching science creatively.

After lunch, faculty members chose from 11 workshops at school or the University of Chicago. Integrating the U. of C. science facilities was important, Ms. Martonffy said.

"One of the tours visited the labs in the Gordon Center for Integrative Sciences," Ms. Martonffy explained. "It's a model for integrating both clinical and research work and the biological and physical sciences. There's so much to explore that we haven't even touched; we enjoyed seeing at least the tip of the iceberg.

"I think the keynote speakers promoted the excitement, the enthusiasm and the inventiveness involved with studying science rather than getting lost in the massive amount of knowledge we already have."



"I think the Service Conference was very enlightening. It was inspiring to see people my age doing so many different things to serve their communities."  
 —Radhika Attele, senior

# following up 3

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2007

## Conference delegates return with Community Learning ideas

By Gretchen Eng  
 Midway reporter

Returning from the National Service Learning Conference, March 28-31 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, five Peer Leaders brought back ideas for next year's Community Learning agenda. They include a joint service project with Kelvyn Park High School on the Northwest Side.

Chaired by Liz Parsons, the group presented a self-designed workshop describing how to build a student-led Community Learning program to a national audience of high school students and educators.

In addition, the U-Highers attended workshops led by other schools and organizations on subjects ranging from environmental protection to third world country aid.

Daniel said he got the idea of next year's joint service program from Kelvyn Park High School representatives and their workshop on gang violence and ethnic issue in their communities.

"Most of their student population is Hispanic," Daniel said. "And a large percentage are the children of illegal immigrants. Their community leaders had some really interesting ideas on educating the student population on their rights, specifically about financial aid and applying to college."

"By collaborating with the school and participating with their idea of teaching students their rights, it really makes the topic of immigration a lot more tangible for our students during discussion."

"As of now, we're really only in the preliminary phase of working together. We've been emailing, but we'll be able to continue our contact over the summer and come up with a more definite plan at that time."

Attending a global water crisis workshop, Liz said she saw an opportunity to give the U-High Community Learning program an international aspect.

"The workshop leaders specifically mentioned raising money to help villages, mainly in Africa, to create water purification services," Liz said. "One participant also mentioned developing a partnership with a school in a third-world community and helping to raise money for other needs they might have."

"Our service program has undertaken many drives and fundraisers but this could really be the first time we would do it on an international level. With this idea, I think we really have the opportunity to broaden the horizons of our program."

Also attending were seniors Angel Pu and Radhika Attele; junior David McAlpine; Community Learning Coordinator Maureen Gauntner and Dean of Students Larry McFarlane.

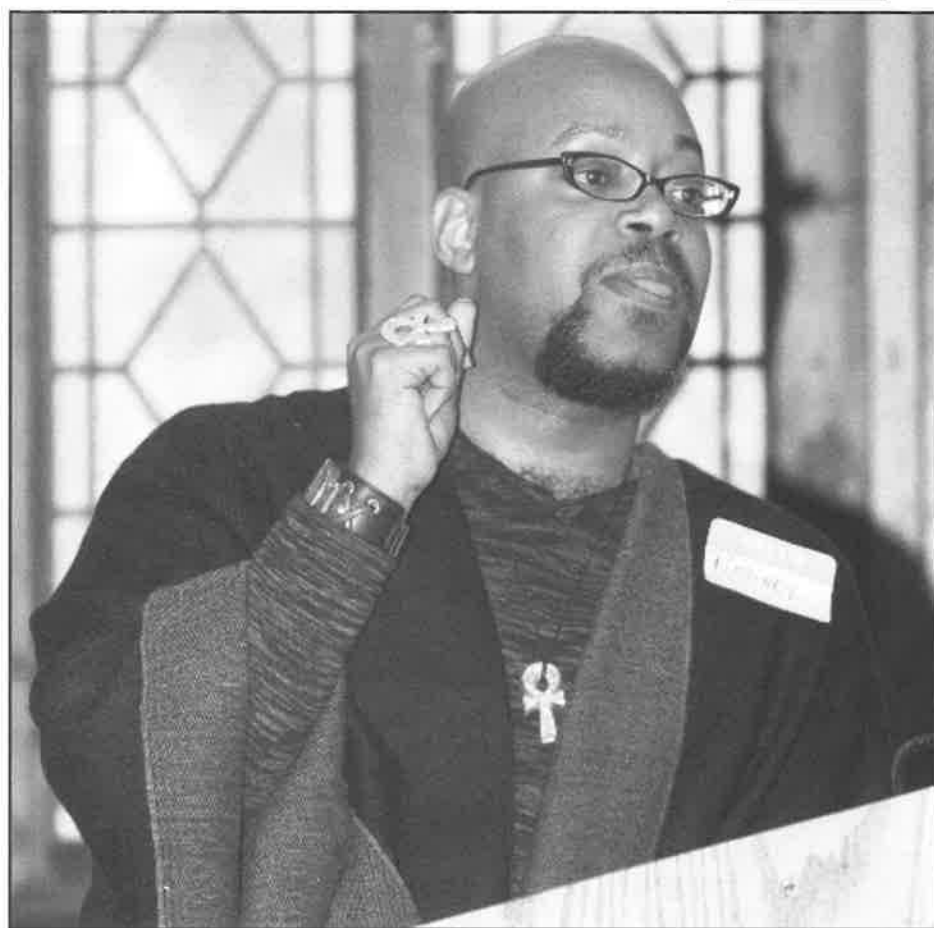


Photo by Steven Jones

## Voice of experience

"If you are too proud and too bold, people will try to bring you down," cautioned Mr. Rodney Glasgow, guest speaker at Flava Fest, April 7, sponsored by the People of Color Conference delegates. Director of diversity at Worcester (Massachusetts) Academy, Mr. Glasgow talked about what he has learned from his experiences as a gay black man. More than 30 students and faculty from U-High, Latin and Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences attended. Mr. Glasgow also led students in diversity-building activities including discussions on race, religion and economic class and viewing clips from the NBC-TV show "The Office" to see examples of stereotyping.

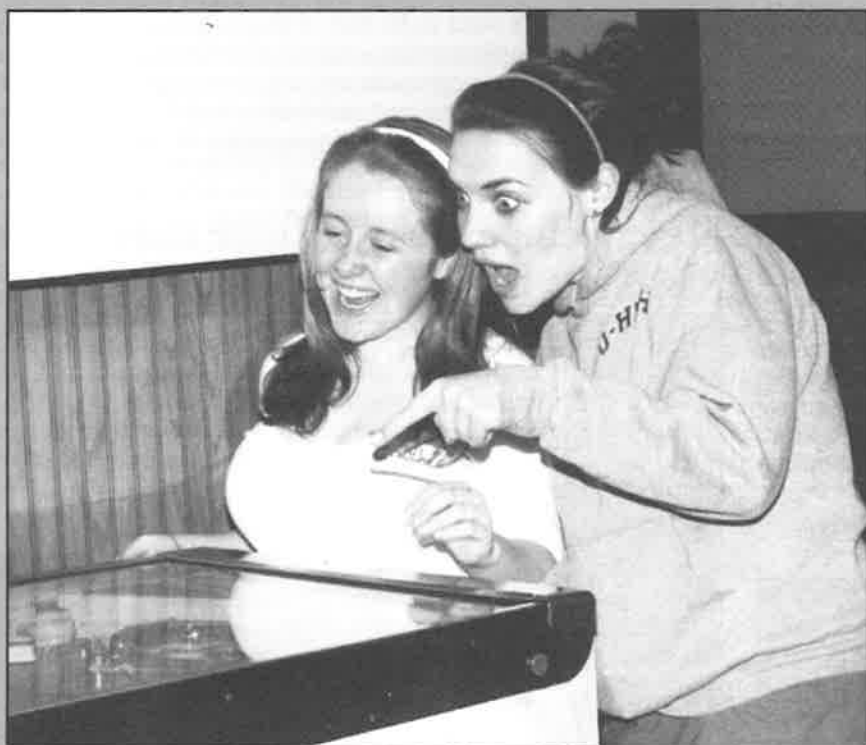


Photo by Alya Forster

## Taking a break at a break

Enjoying a break between group activities at Junior Retreat, April 11-13 at Resurrection Center in far northwest suburban Woodstock, Gretchen Eng, Becca Foley and other classmates played pinball, pool or just relaxed with friends in the game room. In group sessions the juniors participated in bonding experiences which revealed much about classmates they hadn't known. The emotional journey climaxed at a candlelighting ceremony, as juniors honored people who had inspired them. "Junior Retreat gave us a good chance to take a break from school," said Vice President David McAlpine said. "It also helped us look at each other in a more profound and understanding manner."

## Writers, artists win honors

Three Midway staff members have been declared National Winners in an annual writing, photo and art contest sponsored by Quill and Scroll Journalism Honor Society.

After four years of drawing editorial cartoons and comic strips for the Midway, Senior Sam Dreessen received an award in the cartoon category.

Editor-in-Chief Jacqueline Chaudhry, senior, won an award in the news story category for her story on the school's diversity initiative in the November 7 issue.

For writing a special sports section in the November 7 issue Editor-in-Chief Phil Jacobson, senior, won a sports story award.

Phil also won in the feature story category

for his story last year on Travis Orman, who directs the innovative and hugely-popular dining court at the Graduate School of Business across Kimbark Avenue from the Lab Schools.

Each winner will receive a Quill and Scroll Gold Key award at the Awards Assembly in June and can apply for a college journalism scholarship.

In a similar contest sponsored by the Columbia (University, New York City) Scholastic Press Association, Senior Mara MacMahon won an honorable mention certificate for her graphic art last year accompanying an in-depth centerspread on the phenomenon of high school popularity.

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"I'm disappointed to see a lot of candidates are running unopposed, but I wish next year's candidates the best of luck."

—Donavan Mitchem, senior



Photo by Jeremy Handrup

## Class president candidates

Running for next year's class presidents are, from left, Jack Brewer for next year's sophomores; Denise Akuamoah and Ciara Zagaja for next year's juniors; and Robert Strickling for next year's seniors. Absent from the photo is Freshman Alexandra Fryer.

## Student Council candidates



"I think we need to open up the lines of communication. I know the juniors this year utilized both e-mail and Facebook and it worked better than we thought it would. So I feel like implementing something like that school wide would be extremely beneficial."

—David McAlpine, vice president

"I feel like in the past Student Council really hasn't been taken very seriously, but next year I want to change that."

—Addie Epstein, vice president



"I want to keep people informed about what is happening with the money. I feel like no one knows where the money at Lab goes, like from fundraisers. I am going to make sure there is enough money for Prom and that we are not broke."

—Yoolim Kim, treasurer

"I am a Lab lifer and I think I know what to do to help the grade. I am organized and think I would be able to help run the school and get the opinions of the people."

—John Wasik, treasurer



## Next year's Cultural Union candidates

"C.U. next year will be the best year for Student Council. Alya Forster and I make a great team and I can't wait until we start planning next year."

—Amanda Pappas, vicepresident



"I've never been in C.U. but I'm really dedicated to having a fun senior year. I'd be a good addition to the C.U. family. I hope to plan more activities, like trips to Great America and free lunches."

—Robin Shapiro, senior rep.



"I've always wanted to run for C.U. and this is my last chance so I'd really like to make the most of it."

—Mona Dasgupta, senior rep.



"I was president freshman year and we planned a lot of social events, so I have the experience necessary for C.U. I'd like to have more outings like bowling and trips to Six Flags."

—Sofia Iatarola, junior rep.



"I want to be part of the planning of activities and implementing a variety of activities. I will make sure that everyone is noticed, I can do this because I am very organized and determined."

—Stephanie Tang, secretary

## Next year's class officer candidates

### Seniors



"Our 2008 senior officers need to take a more active approach to affairs. As class vice president I would emphasize new fundraising strategies to enlarge our budget for social events. I would give the students a greater voice through the polls and surveys, ensuring our policies accurately reflect the senior class."

—Ben Picker, vice president

"I've been on C.U. for the past two years so I have the most experience. I plan to have more events with other schools. I want to see what activities the grade wants to do and make them happen."

—Isabel Del Canto, junior rep.



"I would be a good representative because I am good at planning activities. I know a lot of people don't like dances so I would make an effort to do more grade activities."

—Kendall Gordon, junior rep.



"Everyone is always stressed out senior year, so I will work to make it as fun as possible. I also want to get better communication within the grades. This year I personally felt the grades were divided and I want that to end."

—Sydney Marcus, vice president



### Juniors



"After my first year of being in Student Council I've realized the importance of staying organized and getting things done effectively. We had trouble staying with the schedule, so next year as vice president I would like the opportunity to get more things done and have activities that benefit the whole grade."

—Ruiqi Tang, vice president



"Since I'm new I have a different perspective. I have new ideas and I can try and change things that way. I have a public school perspective."

—Nico Gomez, junior rep.



"I want to help make the dances run more smoothly especially coat check which seems to be a problem. I'd also plan more events like an all school Six Flags trip."

—Julia Baird, sophomore rep.

"School can be stressful and I want to plan fun events that work more efficiently. I will make sure that does not happen and get ideas for outings from the students."

—Sydney Small, sophomore rep.



"I want to make sure that communication between Student Council and the students is better. I'd also like to make C.U. a more prominent part of Student Council."

—Natalia Khosla, sophomore rep.



"I was vice president this year and learned a lot from that. A lot of freshman activities that we tried to plan did not work out. However, I have learned from that and know how to make things work out better now."

—Amelia Acosta Pacelli, vice president



### Sophomores

# Presidential candidates outline goals for office

(continued from front page)

"I think if I was president our grade would be happier," Denise said. "I would do all I could to fulfill my grade's needs. I would plan more class events and take what people say into consideration. I think this year a lot of things that have been said haven't been taken into consideration and I plan to fix that."

Running for sophomore class president, Jack Brewer and Alexandra Fryer, freshmen, both expressed goals ranging from schedule changes to budget control.

"Both all of Student Council and I would like would like to make the 10 minute tardiness rule more lenient, perhaps 15

minutes, because for classes like gym you come a few seconds late and get kicked out of class," said Jack, who was freshman class president this year. "Student Council's role in the school is obviously getting bigger, but it isn't where it needs to be. Donavan and Dan have run Student Council effectively over the last year and I think the individual steering committees were a great idea because we were able to work with more focus in the smaller groups."

"The fact that Dan is running unopposed has to do a lot with how effective he has been on Student Council, it really demonstrates his strength as vice president and how he will be as president."

Alex believes her Model U.N. and experience in student council at her middle school, Summit Academy in north suburban Elgin, will help her.

"If elected next year I'd really like to begin by dividing our budget more or less in half and then immediately give half of the budget to various charities," Alex said. "After donating to the charities we could use bake sales and other fundraisers to build the budget back, but I think donating to charities is the main thing I want to accomplish next year."

Editor's note: All students who notified the Midway as of last Saturday that they were running for office are included in this issue. (Also see editorial page 8)



**"Derbes doesn't only teach physics, Derbes teaches life. Once he taught our class how to tie a bow tie."**

—Marcell Babai, senior

# from page one

# 5

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2007

## The golden David Derbes

(continued from front page)

attention shifted as he eyed a student walking toward the glass door.

"Come on in," he said to his student, Junior Raphi Cuenod, who was taking a quiz in the hallway.

He lifted his thick, gold rimmed glasses over his eyes and squinted as she handed him a quiz she just completed. He scanned the paper. "Yeah, yeah, wait a minute kiddo." He reached for the pen that sits in the shirt pocket of his baby blue button down, scribbled down a formula and told her to "go out and try it again."

"Sorry, where was I? Oh yes, so when I drove through New Orleans with my daughter in June 2006 I did not recognize where I grew up. Hurricane Katrina had completely demolished it. I couldn't tell the streets, I didn't know where anything was. It was weird. The city is in terrible shape."

His daughter Catherine, born in 1987 after Mr. Derbes and his wife moved from New Orleans to Chicago, graduated from U-High two years ago and now attends Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

"I'm an indulgent parent," Mr. Derbes said. "We're not strict, but she's so sensible and rational. If she did do anything bad growing up she got away with it because I don't know about it. Basically I just drive her wherever she needs to go. Same with my wife."

Unlike Catherine, Mr. Derbes wasn't an only child growing up in Old Metairie, a neighborhood in New Orleans. He and his sister Anne, who is five years his senior, bickered often and both attended Isadore Newman High School.

"In high school I was a lot like any Lab student here—I wasn't the class genius though," he said. "I had this friend who was much better at math and science than me. Everyone sort of knew that he was the math and science guy. He went on to do math at Yale," he chuckled and gave his hands a break from talking as well as his mouth.

Coming from a family of teachers—his father and mother both taught at Tulane University—Mr. Derbes said physics wasn't his first love in high school.

"At the time, I was really interested in chemistry. I collected elements..." he said, rambling about his collection. "You see, sodium metal reacts violently with water..."

"When we were kids we would take chunks of sodium metal and throw it into the swimming pools. It would make some sort of explosion, I don't know. We were nerds."

He lifted his hands and placed them behind his head, now relaxed as a faint smile shaded across his clean-shaven face.

"This one time though, I left a piece of sodium metal in my pants pocket," he said. "My mom did the laundry and basically the whole machine just blew up, which would have been okay if my sister's favorite dress hadn't also been in the load."

As his hands came down, his black nylon strapped wristwatch knocked the table as he took a few seconds to think about what to say next.

"High school was the '60s," he continued. "It was different then. There were always different cliques. The jocks. The freaks. I was probably a freak. We had long hair and listened to weird music. We were into strange films and wrote underground newspapers. It wasn't like I smoked a lot of dope or anything. Actually, the freaks drank wine."

Wine, consequently, is what Mr. Derbes gave up for Lent. Or rather, tried to give up. Not shy to admit that he enjoys a good drink, Mr. Derbes said he found his wife in his pursuit of hard liquor.

"After I graduated from Princeton in 1974 with an A.B. in physics, I spent a year at Cambridge," he explained. "Then I went to study physics in Scotland for a while where I earned my Ph.D. at Edinburgh University. But when I came back in April of 1979 I decided to go to a college reunion. So I went over to the physics department and they were drinking tea."

"Now my idea of a Friday afternoon wasn't drinking tea, so I headed over to the Russian department where I was sure I'd find some vodka. Anyway, there I met this woman who told me she had a friend I would like who was a grad student at the U. of C. I started talking to her friend and two years later she was my wife," he said in a nonchalant manner, radiating the youth of a teenager as he tipped his chair back and balanced it on its two back feet.

Besides his fondness for driving long distances and his position on the board of the Seminary Co-op Bookstore, Mr. Derbes said he is a definite hermit.

"I spend a lot of time at home," Mr. Derbes said. "Oh—," he sparked up as something came to mind. "I belong to a book group! There are about nine or 10 other guys around the same age as me. We all get together and if the book is good we talk about it some but if it was bad we usually just go right to the beer."

"There's this one guy, Powers, I know him pretty well... You know there's a leading Irish whiskey that's called Powers." He loses his train of thought briefly before eventually finding it again. "Other than that I'm basically really kind of boring."

One of six U-Highers the Golden Apple Awards Selection Committee interviewed about Mr. Derbes, Senior Angel Pu said Mr. Derbes is anything but boring.

"Besides the fact that Mr. Derbes uses a lot of different colored chalk, he's just great because he's really thoughtful," Angel said. "For example, this one time I missed a class and he literally spent an entire class period's worth, well 40 minutes, taking the time to explain to me everything I missed. That's the

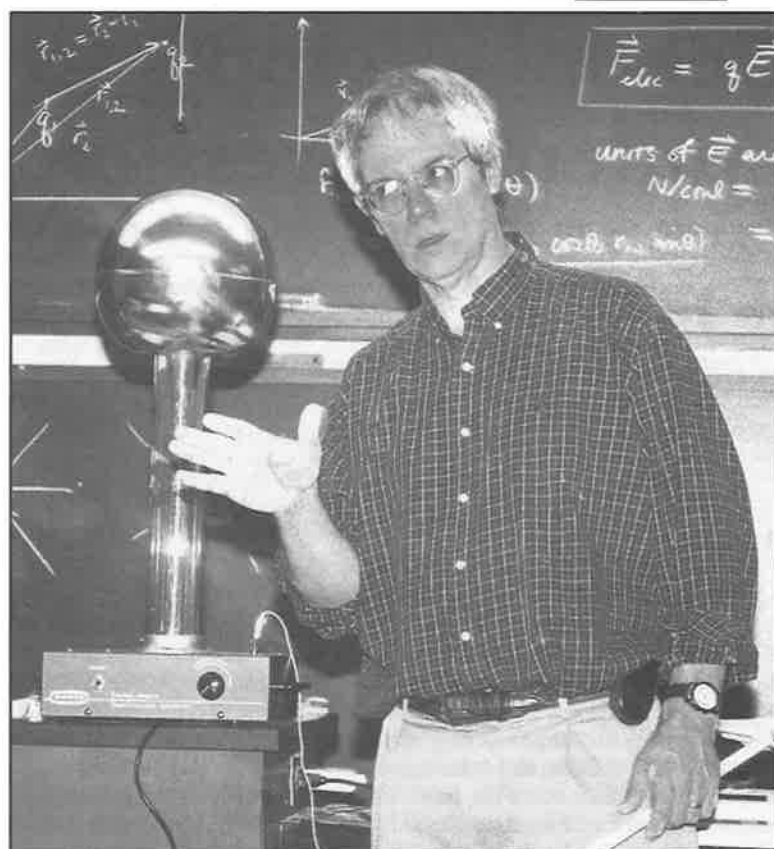


Photo by Liwen Xu

Mr. David Derbes teaching his A.P. Physics B class.

sort of person he is. I'm glad he won the Golden Apple."

Mr. Derbes is not this year's only U-High affiliated Golden Apple winner. '71 graduate John Naisbitt, now a teacher at Hinsdale Central High School, also won. Former U-High teacher John O'Connor, who now teaches at New Trier High School, was a finalist.

In addition to Mr. Derbes, Lab Schools teachers Ms. Rosa McCullagh, Mr. Spike Wilson, Ms. Catherine Bell, Ms. Jan Yourist, Mr. Randy Fowler and Ms. Hanna Goldschmidt are Golden Apple recipients.

Recounting the morning he won his Golden Apple, Mr. Derbes said that when he bumped into Chief Program Officer of the Golden Apple Foundation Gloria Harper in the High School office March 14, "the cat was out of the bag."

"When I ran into Gloria that morning I knew I must've won," he said. "So, it wasn't a huge surprise when a bunch of people I didn't know showed up in my classroom that morning. There was a lot of clapping and speeches and cameras. To be honest, I don't like all this attention."

He landed his chair back safely on all four legs as Raphi reemerged, his active arms beckoning her in once again. She handed him the paper. He looked it over. "Aha! It's a masterpiece. Good. Great."

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"How could a school suppress students' opinions when the First Amendment of the constitution protects them? We are a democracy, not a tyranny!"  
—Sam Shapiro, sophomore



## School attempts to muzzle student expression thriving

By Graham Salinger  
Associate editor

Does lifting up a sign with a drug reference during the school day when you didn't go to school or writing a newspaper column encouraging the tolerance of homosexuals justify high school administrators limiting free speech? Those questions are posed by two current cases involving high school students' rights to expressing their opinions in writing. They are the Supreme Court Case of *Frederick v. Morse* and the suspension of Woodlan, Indiana's Junior Senior High student newspaper adviser Amy Sorrell.

On December 1, 2006, the United States Supreme Court agreed to hear the case of Joseph Frederick of Douglas High School, in Juneau, Alaska. Frederick, on January 24, 2002, a day he did not go to school, held out a 14-foot banner with the words, "Bong Hits 4 Jesus" taped across it, among students dismissed from classes to watch the Winter Olympic Torch parade passing his school. Seeing the sign from across the school, Principal Deborah Morse approached Frederick and ordered him to take down the sign. When he objected, she suspended him for 10 days.

Frederick appealed his suspension first to District Court and then to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco before the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case. The decision is expected in June and arguments were heard March 19.

According to the Supreme Court transcript, Principal Morse and the school district argued that, by promoting drugs, Frederick's speech was inconsistent with the schools "basic educational message." They argued that for that reason under the Supreme Court's 1988 landmark student press ruling in *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier* such speech is not protected. They also argued that *Tinker v. Des Moines*, the 1969 ruling involving students wearing black armbands in protest of the Vietnam War, did not apply because by promoting drugs the sign was disruptive to the school's educational mission.

Frederick's lawyer Douglas Mertz believes the sign was not disruptive as defined by *Tinker*. He also argued that just

because school officials disagreed with the sign doesn't mean that they had the right to take it down, as defined by *Hazelwood*.

"Absolutely not," Mr. Mertz said in a phone interview. "The main jettison from free speech is that it doesn't allow for administrators, whoever they are, to deem messages as worthy of merit."

"There is no doubt that children shouldn't be exposed to lewd or obscene material or anything that promotes hate or violence. Beyond that, if it isn't disruptive there's no justification for the censorship of students."

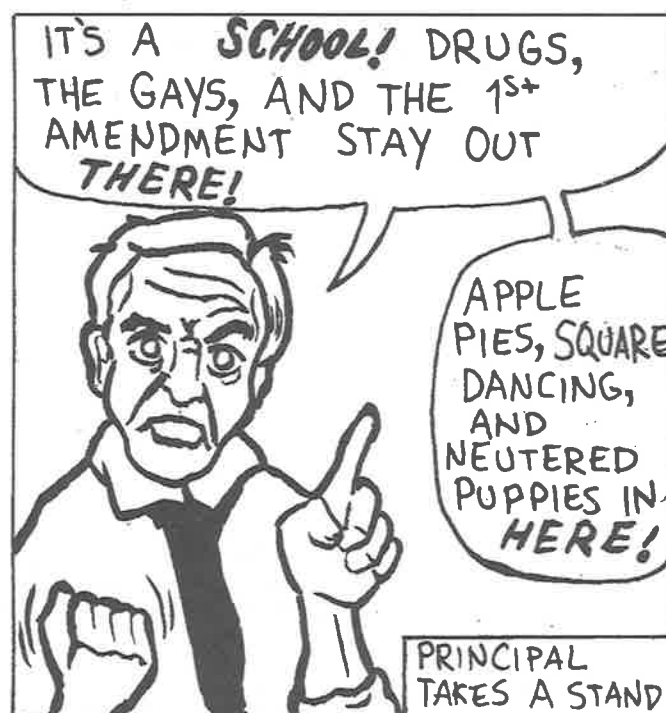
"It remains to be seen how much of a role politics will play in this case. Kenneth Starr made himself available free of charge so that he could advance his conservative agenda; he didn't know there would be so much ground swelling on our side from conservatives. The religious conservatives in particular have given us support because they see this case as a threat to their first amendment rights and religious freedom."

Kenneth Starr is the key attorney defending the Alaskan school board.

In the second case Ms. Amy Sorrell, adviser of the Woodlan Junior Senior High newspaper the *Tomahawk*, was put on paid leave by school administrators after they objected to an opinion column, according to official site of the Student Press Law Center, an advocacy group for high school journalists based in Virginia.

Written by Sophomore Megan Chase, the column appeared in the January 19 issue of the *Tomahawk* and encouraged the tolerance of homosexuals, saying in part, "I don't understand why we would put so much pressure on those people that they would feel that they have to end their lives because of their sexuality. Would it be so hard to just accept them as human beings who have feelings just like everyone else?"

Ms. Sorrell says she believes the column represented responsible journalism and not inappropriate reporting.



Art by Eric Cochrane

"I think this is a case of overreaction which snowballed from there," she said in a phone interview. "I really don't know where it came from, board members, the principal, or maybe even someone higher up. Personally I thought the stuff (in the same issue) on pregnancy was controversial, especially an opinion piece by one of my editors on abstinence versus safe sex. I gave it to the principal, who did a double check and he told the editor that she did good job."

"I didn't think a column on tolerance would be controversial. I think that this case is more about the First Amendment and different interpretations of *Hazelwood* and different judgments. I didn't see a concern with something on tolerance. My training in journalism has given me a good understanding of cases like *Hazelwood* and *Tinker*."

"Students who are taught responsible journalism should be given the opportunity to practice what they learn just like real journalists, and just like real journalists, student

(continues on page 13)

# I am

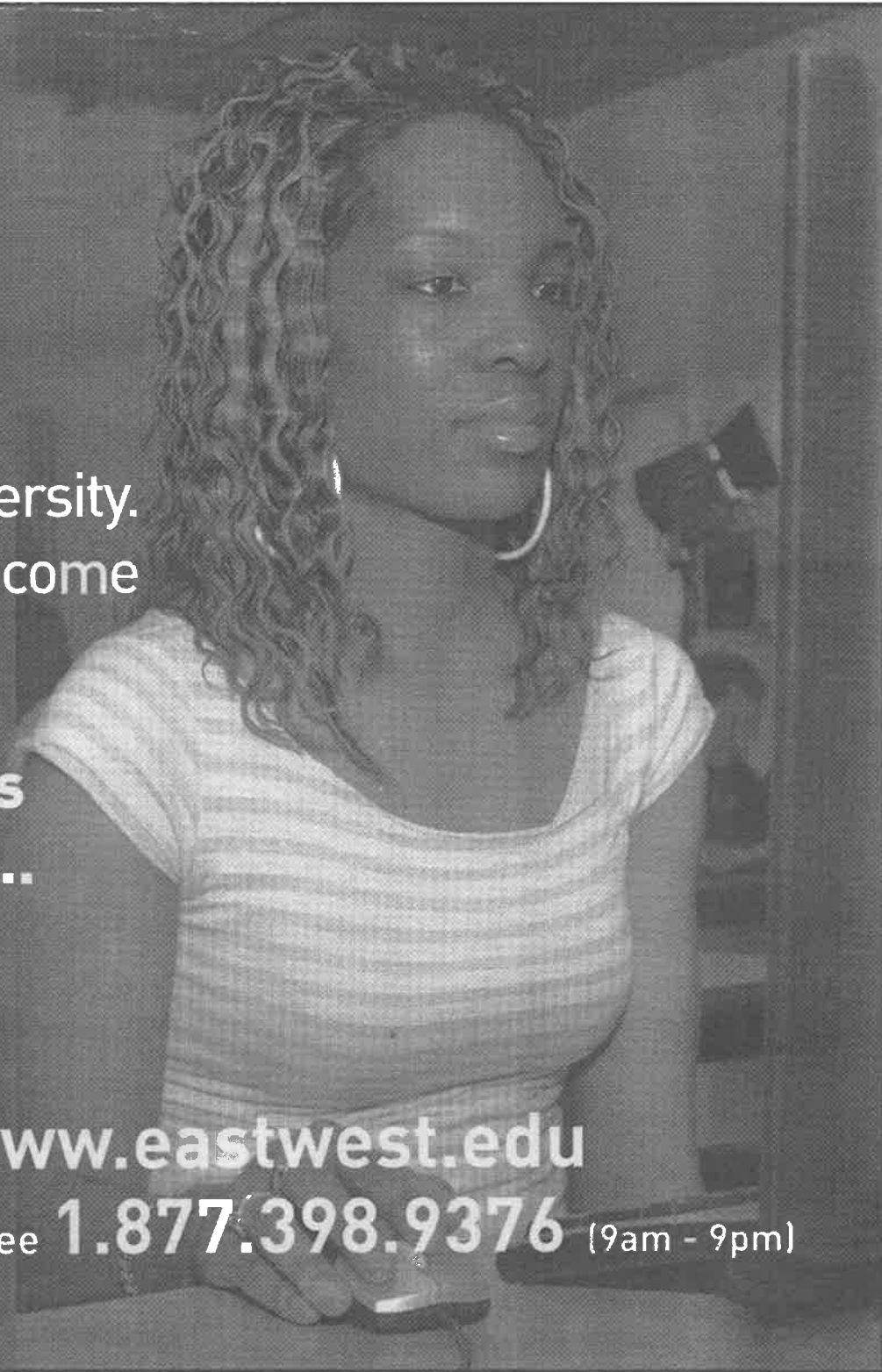
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"Mona and I have always dreamt about this trip. It was one of the best experiences of my life."  
—Amanda Pappas, junior

# first person

# 7

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2007



## Around the World in 10 Days



Photo courtesy of Mona Dasgupta

Juniors Amanda Pappas and Mona Dasgupta in Brazil.

## Awarded in Washington

A FIERCE BATTLE raged in front of me. Surrounded by bright lights and high-tech equipment on the set of "Meet the Press" with Tim Russert, I watched politicians verbally duke it out over whether to redeploy U.S. soldiers from Iraq. The experience climaxed Day Two of the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Scholarship and Conference Program, March 17-22 in Washington, D.C.

The program annually honors a boy and girl from each state for achievements in journalism, awarding each a \$1,000 scholarship. We were all brought to D.C. and put up in the Watergate Hotel, all expenses paid.



**First Person**  
**Phil**  
**Jacobson**

last-minute preparations.

Not one to miss an opportunity to gain potential voters, guest Tom Delay, a former Representative (R-Tex.), schmoozed and took photos with our group after the show while

others of us spoke with Russert. He graciously took about an hour to answer questions and tell stories from his years on the show.

On Monday, we heard from five journalists, including nationally syndicated columnist Betty Baye. She spoke masterfully, relating life experiences that produced laughter and inspired.

More speakers on Tuesday, then a trip to USA Today. Overlooking an artificial lake and grassy field, the large, angular building was made completely of glass and evoked images of the Emerald City of Oz.

We toured the offices and eventually had a Q&A session with three members of the paper's staff and Editor Ken Paulson.

That night, I got sick with the flu and spent most of Wednesday in the emergency room, missing the morning sessions. But I wasn't going to skip the closing ceremony, the black tie dinner at the National Press Club with journalists and Free Spirit scholars. At the event, we got to speak with many media figures and saw CBS Chief Washington Correspondent Bob Schieffer receive the 2007 Free Spirit award.

Although I'm still unsure if I want to be a journalist, I learned a lot and was treated to a unforgettable experience.

## A Visit From Germany

By Leyla Tatargill  
Midway reporter

Tomorrow, 11 German exchange students, here for three weeks from Stuttgart, will hear many of their hosts sing in the Chicago Children's Choir as a final group activity before returning home Saturday.

Since their arrival April 6, the visitors have been living with U-High families and experiencing Chicago, including a service at the Trinity United Church of Christ, 400 West 95th Street, one of the country's largest African American congregations.

The visitors also toured Prologue High School in Pilsen to see a specialized high school designed for the specific needs of the

largely Hispanic, economically-challenged population. German Teacher Annette Steinbarth, German-American Partnership Program coordinator, arranged the visit so the group would see a school different from U-High.

Visitors and their hosts, in that order, are as follows:

**Leonie Mache**, Julia Baird; **Joan Adjetey**, Keira Kennedy; **Antonia Föhl**, Madeline Stecy; **Katharina Ivic**, Catriona Stokes; **Vanessa Nikolaou**, Lida Wu; **Yannick Laars-Bürgel**, Giuseppe Zingales; **Lien Herzog**, Elisabeth Morant; **Aris Katz**, Eugene Lee; **Pia Seidel**, Gretchen Eng; **Ana Cupen**, Rebecca Foley; **Luciana Barenhoff**, Patsy Williams.

## Traveling Tropical Brazil

AS I INCHED towards the edge of Corcovado Mountain, I made sure to hold on to the nearby rail, seeing as I have a fear of heights. But when my eyes fell upon the beautiful city surrounded by mountains, my fear immediately faded. The sun showered down and water glistened in the distance. Behind me stood the famous 125-foot statue of Jesus Christ with his arms spread over the city as if blessing the land. The statue, *el Cristo Redentor* (Christ the Redeemer), decked the top, projecting its beauty and history.

I went to Brazil for the first time during Spring Break, March 16-24, with Junior Amanda Pappas. She is half Brazilian and fluent in Portuguese, the native language. We've dreamed of going to Rio de Janeiro together since we were 13.

Shaky cable cars carried us to the top of *Pão de Açúcar*, commonly known as Sugarloaf Mountain. I saw *favelas*, which are poor people's homes, adorning the mountains with color and life. I peered further south at the famous Ipanema Beach and recalled playing the '60s bossa nova hit "The Girl from Ipanema" on the piano. Looking at the enormous soccer stadium near the filled harbor, anyone could tell

just how serious the sport is in Brazil.

As we walked down the streets, spices from vendors' cooking blended with the salty, something fresh scent of the nearby ocean unlike anything I've ever experienced. I tried so many new things, including drinking coconut water and cans of the popular Brazilian soda, Guarana.

One night we went to dinner at an area that could be considered Brazil's Hollywood and later took a private bus to a nightclub in downtown Rio. When I got out of the bus, images of Europe came to mind with the cobbled streets, gothic buildings and cafés on the street corners.

The actual nightclub was an antique store by day and nightclub by night! Pop music filled the building with fiddles hanging from the walls and blankets hanging from the ceiling.

We then traveled to Angra dos Reis, three-and-a-half-hours from Rio. Brazil's organic beauty swept us away. Driving along the coastline, we passed small islands, villages with houses painted hot pink and bright yellow and an enormous amount of differing plant life.

Soon I boarded the plane for an 11-hour return flight. Upon landing, I was happy to be home, but missed Brazil's friendly people and exquisite way of life.

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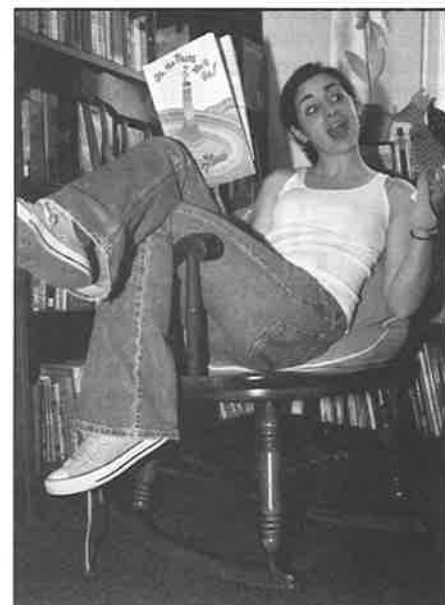


Photo by Sheena Anand

Reading her favorite bedtime story, "Oh! the Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss, Sophomore Becca Marks takes a break from studying for her upcoming A.P. Euro exam.



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## As the Midway sees it



Art by Sam Dreessen

## Why your vote still counts

When U-Highers look over the few names on student government election ballots tomorrow, they may find many decisions have already been made for them.

With candidates for Student Council president and Cultural Union president running unopposed, students will have little to consider. Instead of making thoughtful, deliberate decisions, students will have the results mapped out for them.

In theory, a thriving student government would attract many candidates for every position. So with many of the election's results predetermined, something isn't adding up.

Student government should be empowering, preparing students to make decisions that will surface in college and as adults. The number of candidates running unopposed indicates a new effort must begin to give student government a high profile and punchy power at U-High.

That can start with tomorrow's elections. Candidates who win without opposition shouldn't assume they won't have their work cut out for them starting next year. Instead, they can rise to the challenge and set an example for future governments.

They may want to start by learning from student government's accomplishments this year, which include holding open forums on scheduling. But student government also made unfulfilled promises, including an Insider's Guide to help students determine courses for the upcoming year, which was not produced for whatever reason.

What can be learned is that when student government's plans fall through it directly affects the students and their

view towards the government. When student government jeopardizes its reliability, support from students becomes less likely.

Also, future representatives can demand respect from administrators. It's clear that although administrators say they take student government seriously they don't always. This point became evident when S.C. president Donovan Mitchem asked to see the Diversity Report issued in February by Diversity Consultant Prexy Nesbitt and administrators allowed him only to see Lab Schools Director David Magill's summary, along with the rest of the community.

For the president of the central student advocacy group to have to request permission to see a pertinent report and then be denied access clearly reveals Student Council's unrealized position in the school.

Dean of Students Larry McFarlane has said many times that he remains open to work with as active a student government as the students choose to make it.

A strong student government needs strong backing from the students it represents. If U-Highers want to be taken and represented seriously, they must first take student government seriously. Student government can only live up to its potential when the students want it to.

The effort may be too little too late, but it's up to the students to make it. For student government to have any authority, changes must now be made by those with the power to initiate them.

## Apples for all U-High teachers

Congratulations to Science Teacher David Derbes for winning the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Selected from 32 Chicago area finalists, Mr. Derbes, along with nine other winners, will accept his award Saturday, May 12 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The televised event will debut at 8 p.m., Thursday, May 31 on WTTW, Channel 11.

Two other U-High affiliated teachers were recognized by the Golden Apple Foundation this year. '71 U-High graduate John Naisbitt, who teaches at Hinsdale Central High School, won while former U-High teacher John O'Conner, who now teaches at New Trier High School, was a finalist but not a winner.

Also recently acknowledged, Science Department Chairperson Sharon Housinger received the Siemens Award last month, which acknowledges teachers in science and math courses who foster A.P. examination.

And Mr. Derbes isn't the first Lab Schools teacher to receive the Golden Apple. In fact, he is the impressive seventh. Before him, Ms. Catherine Bell, Mr. Randy Fowler, Ms. Hanna Goldschmidt, Ms. Rosa McCullagh, Mr. Spike Wilson and Ms. Jan Yourist all won the award.

Having even one Golden Apple winner would make any institution stand out. But the Lab Schools have seven winners among many other award recipients.

Some of them include Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler and History Teacher Earl Bell, who are the two remaining winners at U-High of the Lab Schools Masters Teacher Award. Mr. Brasler also has received the National Journalism Teacher of the Year Award from the Newspaper Fund, and other teachers have won other honors.

But whether a teacher has a plaque or statuette to show for it, all Lab Schools teachers strive to create elite learning environments and mold passionate students. Teachers embrace strong teacher-student relationships and always

have open door policies. It's rare not to see at least one teacher actively helping a U-Higher even after the school day has let out. A teacher's career warrants appreciation.

And although this appreciation can be expressed in different ways, it's the teaching staff as a whole that keeps U-Highers motivated and captivated in a demanding school. Rooting for their students to succeed while challenging them, teachers must have energy and skill. Anyone who devotes himself or herself to teaching deserves recognition far beyond any official prize.

## 10-second editorials

■ Noticeably more seniors have been sitting in the cafeteria during free periods and lunch since Dean of Students Larry McFarlane closed the Senior Lounge April 11, the day of Junior Retreat. That morning, juniors had been told to leave their luggage in the Senior Lounge while attending their classes before departing. When they retrieved their bags they discovered a few seniors had switched personal belongings between suitcases.

Although it's wrong to invade private property, the irony lies in the fact that U-High prides itself on its community feeling, so why engineer such a thoughtless prank? Nonetheless, an apology has been made and a punishment has been served, it's time to move on.

■ The recent shootings that left 33 dead at Virginia Tech University April 16 naturally raise a question as to how U-High would react in a similar situation.

If an emergency were to arise at U-High, designated persons would alert the school by walking the halls with air horns. But given the school's intricate layout, it seems unlikely that a prompt warning could occur, not to mention the plan leaves the designated persons vulnerable to intruders. Perhaps now is the time to consider investing in a schoolwide warning system.

## Say What?

Compiled by Artis Lewis

If suddenly you woke up tomorrow morning and all of your third quarter classes and finals were over, what would you do, where would you go and why?



Victoria

**ANDREY DRINFELD, junior:** I would first reflect on the academic year. I would also definitely have to get used to the schedule change. Then I would immediately start making plans for the summer and ask myself: how can I keep myself busy while still in Chicago before I leave to travel somewhere with my parents?



Andrey



Alexis

**ALEXIS MADARA, sophomore:** I would first be in a state of shock. Then I would probably immediately go to the mall with my friends because it's summer and I would just be in the mood to chill and kick back with friends.



Arthur

**ARTHUR MARTIN, freshman:** I would first have to pinch myself to make sure that I wasn't dreaming. If I weren't, then I would be obligated to throw a party in Mr. McFarlane's office to celebrate. Doing any school work would be illegal at that point.

## U-High MIDWAY

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## When the extraordinary becomes commonplace

**Y**ELLOW RIBBONS tied around lamp posts and trees surround the Whitney Young High School campus at 211 South Laflin Street. But these ribbons aren't decoration. Rather they are symbols of mourning for Senior Chris Pineda, a Near West Side resident who disappeared the afternoon of March 23. He was found dead a week later in the Cal Sag Canal near Blue Island.

Chris had dropped his girlfriend off at a grocery store where she worked near 108th street and Ewing avenue on the South East Side. Wearing a black and yellow polo shirt, Chris may have been mistaken for a Latin King gang member. Their colors are black and yellow.

According to family members and close friends, Chris was not involved in anything gang related and he was abducted while waiting to take a bus home.

Chris was a straight A student who was accepted into UIC a few days before his kidnapping. Chris was also the first person in his family headed for college. His mother has been quoted saying in regards to her son graduating high school, "My husband would say, 'I'll give you a thousand dollars, just show me your diploma.'"

Facebook groups were started by schoolmates in honor of Chris, asking for information regarding his disappearance and murder. These groups were filled with comments extending

condolences to Chris' family and joyful memories.

The feeling of community created through such a trying time stood out. The fact that during the period between Chris' kidnapping and discovery a whole school joined together for a single cause is inspiring.



**Opinion**  
**Gabe Bump**

Hundreds of mourners crammed the pews of St. Joseph Parish Shrine on South Hermitage Avenue during the funeral, April 4. Whitney Young Principal Joyce Kenner thanked students for their efforts, which included raising a multithousand dollar reward for information regarding Chris' disappearance as well as countless flyers posted around the city.

A memorial took place in the main gym the day Whitney Young students came back from their Spring Break. Each student was asked to honor Chris by wearing a white T-shirt.

Roughly 1,600 people sat and listened to songs, poems and personal stories from people close to Chris. It was announced that on graduation day Chris' mother will walk down the aisle and accept her son's diploma.

Since the memorial, the press has lost interest in the case,

perhaps because newspapers almost daily are scattered with other stories about random killings that claim the lives of promising young people not involved in gangs or crime. These cases mostly just get written off as another unfortunate event occurring in a dangerous part of the city.

Almost all of these killings occur in lowerclass neighborhoods. As a result, U-Highers, including myself, find it hard to relate and genuinely feel affected by such tragedies.

The fact that a murder has happened to someone at Whitney Young, a prestigious school where many U-Highers have friends, brothers or sisters, serves as a reminder that something like this can happen to anyone.

If this can happen to a teenager about to take the bus home who happens to be wearing the wrong colors in the wrong neighborhood, it can surely happen to anybody who goes to U-High.

Sadly, we live in a city with one of the highest murder rates in the country, so we are used to random killings and murderers being caught. The least we can do is not shrug away the seriousness of these tragedies, no matter who or where it happened.

## Double-barreled film revives era of long, gritty movie nights

REWIND TO the 1970s.

Except with better special effects.

Usually in the worst part of town, Grind Houses were theatres that showed two B-level films together separated with trailers for upcoming features.

"Grindhouse" brings together two eccentric directors, Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino, replicating Grind House films with "Planet Terror" and "Death Proof."

The new film, including previews, runs for more than three hours, although both films were exhilarating enough to keep me awake during the 11:05 p.m. showing on a Friday night at AMC River East 21.



**Film**  
**Marrissa**  
**Miles-**  
**Coccaro**

Using special effects, the directors replicate 1970s films by making the films look like they are being projected on worn reels.

The body parts flung around in both films are incredibly realistic and sickening. Guts pouring out of zombies, pus and blood splattering walls and heads exploding show off these amazing special effects.

Rodriguez's "Planet Terror" plots a Go Go Dancer, Cherry (Rose McGowan) and her lover, Wray (Freddy Rodriguez), against a chemically generated zombie military.

The best part of the whole film: Cherry replaces her amputee leg with a machine gun and does serious damage with every

step. If only Rose McGowan could act. Thankfully, the script doesn't give her many lines. In fact, the only thing the script has are cliché lines that turn this horror into a brilliantly gross comedy.

"Death Proof," directed by Tarantino, features Stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell), who enjoys hitting beautiful women with his car. Contrasting women and fast cars with homicidal

maniacs behind the wheel, "Death Proof" provides a decent thriller.

The typical dialogue made me question whether I was watching a poorly written chick flick or a thriller. More than once I wondered when we would see a high speed chase. Finally, after an hour, Tarantino delivers the best car chase I have ever seen. People on the roof of high speeding cars crashing through walls left me breathless.

"Grindhouse" is the perfect horror movie and though the dialogue could use some work, the movie is exhilarating and a convincing return to the 1970s.



Photo by Zack Slouka

Eliot Popko and Zena Hardt at Marrakech Cuisine on Ashland Avenue.

## A tasty gift of Moroccan cuisine in Wicker Park

MELODIC MEDITERRANEAN instrumentals and the distinct smell of leather goods reach every corner of Marrakech Cuisine, a small Moroccan restaurant doubling as a gift shop in Wicker Park. They give the restaurant the feel of a North African bazaar.

My companion and I visited Marrakech for dinner on a Saturday afternoon and found a storefront filled with goods from leather belts to handmade jewelry leading to a long, half underground dining room. Plenty of hanging lamps made of leather and stained glass compensated for the lack of natural light and created a mellow mood.

In spite of the distractions, we remembered our main purpose, food and sat down to order. The meat heavy menu's surprising number of options, considering the restaurant's small size, invited us to share our entrées. The Kafta Kabob, \$7.95, a seasoned ground beef dish and Merguez, \$8.50, a type of sausage, both came cooked in herbs and spices and were served with rice.

We topped off our meal with Chicken Pastille, \$9.50, a diced chicken dish wrapped in phyllo, a flaky pastry common to Mediterranean desserts, filled with roasted sweet almonds and garnished with powdered sugar and nutmeg.

Though the Chicken Pastille's description included diced chicken and sweet ingredients, the dish seemed lacking in both. However, a highly enjoyable almond and herb earthiness overpowered everything else, distinguishing the Pastille as both the most interesting and best tasting item we ordered.

After our meal we enjoyed Moroccan fresh mint tea, 95 cents and Moroccan coffee, \$1.50. Both exuded honey and herbal aromas that seemed to have medicinal properties. For dessert we split Sellou, \$2.50, a toasted almond, sesame seed, anise seed and baked flour dessert dipped in honey and butter. It sounds flavorful, but to our dismay tasted bland compared with our rich meal and warm, fragrant drinks. Sellou aside, Marrakech Cuisine's good food, serene mood and interesting merchandise make it an inexpensive and enjoyable Wicker Park oasis.

MARRAKECH CUISINE: 1413 North Ashland Avenue, (773) 227-6451. 5 p.m.-11 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.



**Dining**  
**Eliot Popko**

## Midway Mailbox

### Are gun rights worth lives bulletted down?

From **Angel Castaner**, '05 graduate now at **George Washington University**:

TODAY I AM writing to the Midway to touch on the right to life. A sacred right, granted not only by our Constitution but by trust in our fellow Americans.

This is a right threatened in a most horrific way Monday, April 16 in an institution of greater learning, Virginia Tech.

It is very difficult for me to push for any kind of government interference or regulation.

Incidents such as the one April 16 and those of other school/mass murders, would incline me to believe that they are part of the destructive influence on the "culture of life" that many feel defines American norms. But I must ask you, are all these guns that are legal today necessary? What could a civilian possibly want with an AR34 Assault Rifle? Or with "cop-killer" ammunition?

Many would argue that restricting the sale and usage of such guns restricts our freedom.

I would argue otherwise, that by allowing citizens to own devices of coercion, we are minimizing the amount of freedom enjoyed by one individual.

April 16, the man with a gun deprived 32 people and himself of the quintessential American freedom of the right to life.

Ask yourself, in the wake of this event, in the wake of so much bloodshed and uncertainty, how much is the Second Amendment worth? Is preserving it worth the annual expenditure of lives that guns take away?



Angel

### Senior officers apologize to juniors

From **Natalie Lewis**, Senior Class Cultural Union representative:

DEAR JUNIOR CLASS, On behalf of the senior grade, the Senior Steering Committee would like to apologize for our insensitive behavior. As leaders of the school, we should exhibit more self control

and respect. The senior class accepts full responsibility and will compensate those whose belongings were lost due to the prank. We hope that you can accept our apology and that we can all move on to end the year on a positive note.



Natalie



# Tryin 2 Chill?



■ With the weather getting hot, German exchange student Pia Seidel needs something to cool her off.



■ With no ice cream trucks in sight and the water fountains dry, Pia has hit the jackpot on sweets.



*Photos by Eva Jaeger*

■ And now finally! Pia can chill out with all the ice cream and cool drinks she needs from University Market.

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**"What's really great about Steven's photography is that he does an excellent job with framing."**

—Nina Massad, *senior*

## A winning eye

By Jeffrey Bishku-Aykul  
Associate editor

"I didn't really enter a competition," Senior Steven Jones explained, describing when he was placed in Popular Photography and Imaging Magazine's 2006 Your Best Shot Competition. "I posted an image on the magazine's image forum and the magazine found it and contacted me about it. I consider it to be the moment that made me realize that other people would be interested in looking at my images."

The U-High photographer, who has taken photos since taking an 8th grade Beginning Photography course, went on to win 2nd place in Popular Photography and Imaging Magazine's competition and have his work published in the periodical.

Additionally, Steven's photo of a May 1, 2006 Chicago immigration rally has been published as the cover of a new book, Aviva Chomsky's "They Take Our Jobs! and 20 Other Myths about Immigration." Most recently, he has won a 3rd place photography prize in an Eastern

Illinois School Press Association contest.

"I would say that Advanced Photography has the biggest influence on my photography," Steven explained. "I think the way I shoot outside of school helps how I shoot for the Midway more than shooting for the Midway helps how I shoot out of school. The kind of candid approach I use directly applies to street photography."

Steven has focused this year on photographing the city for Ms. Liese Ricketts' class.

"This year I'm taking Advanced Photography and I'm doing what's called a street photography project," Steven explained. "Basically, I'm shooting street scenes of people going about their daily lives and trying to capture interesting moments."

Though the photographer shoots in a number of genres, such as wildlife photography at Jackson Park's Wooded Isle, he is most interested in human subjects in their environments.

"I consider myself to be more of a documentary photographer," he said. "I hate posing portraits. I'd rather shoot people as they are."

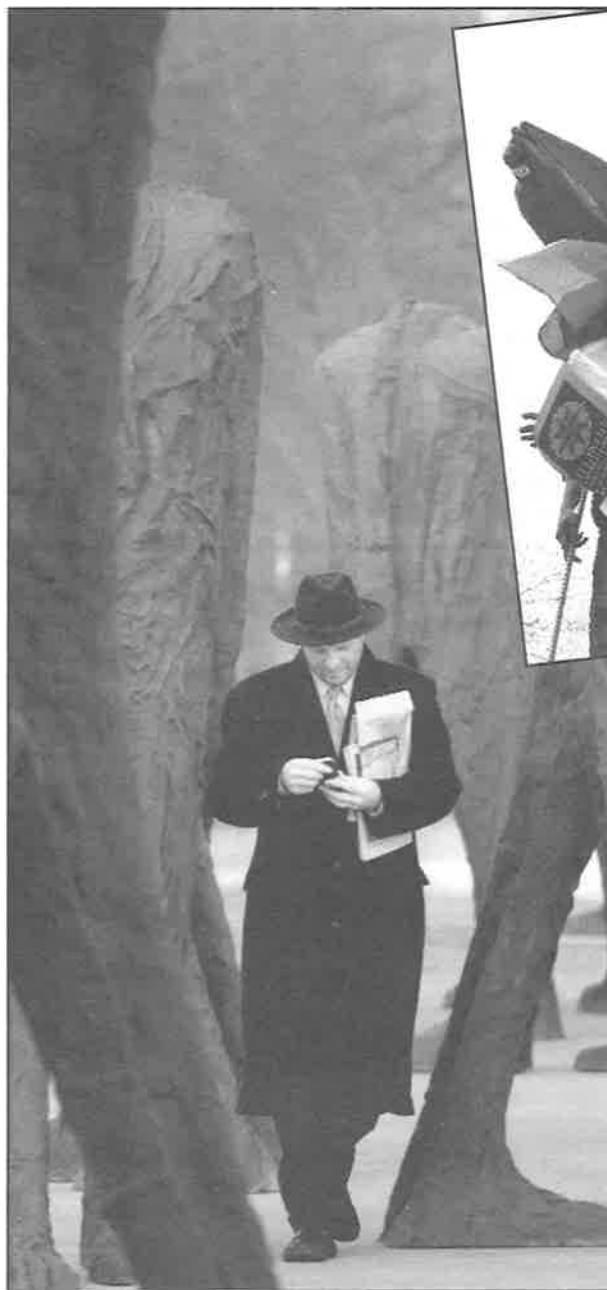
"When you pose a portrait you get the kind of snapshot aesthetic that everyone is familiar with. It's almost like a propaganda image; everyone looks happy all the time. It's just not interesting to look at."

Steven is also applying his photography expertise to a May Project golf instructional video he is making with Seniors Nick Kogelman, Louis Baggetto and Vinesh Jeevanandam.

"We're doing a video about aspects of golf playing, like the things that have to be in place before you can actually swing the club," Steven said. "I'm going to be shooting some stills just so we can show some behind the scenes stuff for our May Project presentation."

According to Steven, while he enjoys it as a hobby, photography does not inspire any possible careers.

"I briefly considered looking into photojournalism as a career," he said. "But it's a very competitive field and it's extremely difficult to break into, and I think I had wanted to go into medicine for a lot longer."



■ Taken downtown at Wacker Drive (photos from top), this shot by Steven Jones won 2nd place in Popular Photography and Imaging Magazine's 2006 Your Best Shot Competition.

■ Three demonstrators picket at the May 1, 2006 Chicago immigration rally in this photo, published on the cover for Salem State College Professor Aviva Chomsky's 2006 book, "They Take Our Jobs! and 20 Other Myths about Immigration."

■ Steven took this photograph last December while walking downtown with his family during Winter Break. The image shows a man walking along artist Magdalena Abakanowicz's "Agora" sculpture in Grant Park.

- Stephen Daiter Gallery
- Daiter Contemporary



Shorty-B, 1994

**Paul D'Amato: Barrio**

**May 11-July 28**

**Artist reception and book signing: Friday, May 11, 5-8pm**

In 1988, just before leaving Chicago for a teaching job in Maine, Paul D'Amato drove through the Mexican community of Pilsen on his way to visit a friend. With no overriding interest in documenting Latino culture, he fell in love with the neighborhood, nonetheless, and returned for 14 years to photograph. The images, along with a selection of journal entries, have recently been published by the University of Chicago Press in *Barrio, Photographs from Chicago's Pilsen and Little Village* (2006).



■ This photograph, which Steven took during May last year from the living room of his family's 28th story apartment, captures a view of the Lakefront looking south from Hyde Park. "It's two different exposures layered on top of each other," he explained. "The purpose of layering these photographs was to get the detail in highlights and shadows so that the highlights weren't just white and the shadows are not solid black."

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## Competitive teams wind up ambitious seasons notably

By Linda Huber  
Midway reporter

**M**ath Team heads to State Saturday at University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana after placing 1st among 7 schools in the Illinois Council of Mathematics Regionals, February 24 at Chicago State University.

"This is the end of the season so right now there's sort of a lull where we prepare for State," said Math Team Sponsor Jane Canright, math teacher.

Members of the team participated in a series of exams to qualify for the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad.

Team members Katherine Lauderdale, Karthik Sarma, Andrew Sugaya and Will Diamond, seniors and Andrey Drinfeld, junior, advanced to the second round exams at the American Invitational Mathematics Examination but didn't proceed further.

Science Team has participated in two state tournaments in the past month.

Placing 1st at State Wednesday, April 18th at the U. of I., the Worldwide Youth in Science squad is continuing a legacy, according to WYSE Team Captain Andrew Sugaya.

"We've gotten 1st for the past five years in a row, so it wasn't that surprising," Andrew said. "We had a really strong computer science team this year. Leadership was also really good this year, with David Xu and Katherine Zhou. Other than that, it didn't really change that much."

Individual WYSE results are as follows:

**ENGLISH**-Frank Firke, junior, 6th.

**MATH**-Katherine Lauderdale, senior, 3rd; Frank Firke, junior, 4th.

**BIOLOGY**-Maria Birukova, junior and Andrew Sugaya, senior, tied for 1st; David Xu, junior,

placed 4th.

**CHEMISTRY**-Katherine Zhou, junior, 3rd; Maria Birukova, junior, 5th.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**-Karthik Sarma, senior, 1st.

**PHYSICS**-Katherine Zhou, junior, 2nd; Karthik Sarma, senior, 3rd.

The Science Olympiad team also went to State last Friday. Results will be published in the next issue of the Midway.

Following the resignation of Senior David Orlikoff, who left because of personal reasons, Sophomore Elisabeth Morant has taken over as Debate Team captain.

"Right now we're focusing on coaching the Middle School debate team," Elisabeth said. "We might have a tournament at the end of the year, if there is enough interest. The season is pretty much over now. We have Districts this Saturday, but we haven't really been preparing because we haven't been certain whether we will be attending or not."

Debate Team results are as follows:

**STATE TOURNAMENT**-March 9-10 at Homewood-Flossmoor High: Elli Liput and Elisabeth Morant, sophomores, won 2, lost 3.

Jennifer Glick and Alma Schrage, freshmen, won 5, lost 5.

Loren Kole and Claire Milsted, freshmen, won 3, lost 7.

Kiera Kennedy and Daniel Simmons-Marengo, freshmen, won 2, lost 8.

Elisabeth Morant, sophomore, was 23rd j.v. speaker.

Jennifer Glick, freshman, was 17th novice speaker and Alma Schrage, freshman, 25th novice speaker.

**MAINE EAST**-February 23-25: Jennifer Glick and Claire Milsted won 2, lost 4.

Loren Kole and Alma Schrage won 3, lost 3.

Loren Kole was 25th Novice speaker.

## School has secure lockdown plan in place

By Kyle Brunke  
Midway reporter

Offering specific security measures in the event of an intruder entering the school or an emergency occurring in the school, U-High provides the most capable procedure with the available means. So believes Math Teacher Paul Gunty, who as assistant to the associate director helps oversee the school's emergency plan.

Although the school doesn't have an emergency communication system, the current procedure is the best available, Mr. Gunty believes.

"If an intruder were to appear within the school, the various public safety coordinators would activate the safety procedure," he explained. "They would lock the outer doors and contact the business office. The University Police would be notified and alerted about the intruder."

"The school has no single alarm, but rather relies on sounding air horns throughout the hallways. The teachers would lock their classroom doors, turn off the lights and tell the students to be quiet."

Concerns about school safety were renewed April 16, when a student at giant Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg fired his Glock 9mm semi-automatic pistol and .22 caliber handgun first into a dormitory and two hours later into classrooms, killing 32 students and faculty members before shooting himself.

While Virginia Tech had one of the best security systems in the nation, including campuswide sirens and speakers, it did not use them until after the killings.

The most effective way to prevent an armed assailant from entering a building is to post individual security guards at each entrance, said Lab Schools Associate Director David Stafford.

"We rely on them to monitor and observe

each entrance," Mr. Stafford said. "They contact the administration if anyone looks suspicious or appears to be a stranger and who is not a member of either the student or faculty body. They have the responsibility to lock the outer doors when an intruder appears."

The organizing of a security program takes time and work, believes Director of Facilities and Security Tony Wilson.

"There are many different factors that account for a security system," Mr. Wilson said. "It covers the entire school, so everyone has to do his or her job. I'm in constant motion throughout the entire day. The facilities itself are hard enough to maintain because we have some extremely old buildings."

The Lab Schools schedules a safety drill every school year.

"During the school year, there were talks about having two drills," Mr. Gunty said. "But since the entire school is involved in the drill, the age difference provides a learning barrier."

"Lower School students don't understand the implications of a possible intruder. This specific drill is scarier than a fire alarm. It would take a large amount of preparation and control in order for them to comprehend the current situation."

Memorial services worldwide commemorated the V.T. tragedy.

On their own campus, days after one of their own had exacted his hatred in the form of a raging massacre, the Hokies gathered on the expansive greenery of their Virginia campus to reaffirm the memories of those who were suddenly and brutally attacked, who only moments before, had been avidly listening to the lectures of their classroom professors.

Classes resumed last Monday, after a morning ceremony commencing with a moment of silence, a balloon release and the sounds of bell tolls.

# SPRING



Feeling a little under the weather like Alice Quinlan?

# FEVER?



Photos by Yoolim Kim

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"It's weird to look at the situation as someone who has a family member as part of the Hokie and Blacksburg community."  
—Graham Salinger, junior



Photo by Sydney Marcus

## Doin' the drill

U-High's annual state-required tornado drill April 4 came off without a hitch. Designated administrators, staff members and faculty members rang hand bells to signal the drill and classrooms quickly emptied as teachers with their students took designated safety positions in hallways away from exposure to windows. This spring tornado season has been a bad one for schools. On March 3 eight students were killed and others injured when a large tornado smashed into the high school at Enterprise, Alabama. A massive storm system had kept students and teachers crouched in the school's hallways two hours as tornado sirens wailed but despite everyone having been moved to places of safety the school, of modern construction, was no match for the tornado, which struck around 1 p.m. A collapsed roof and walls in one hallway fell in on students crouching there. In happier circumstances during U-High's drill are, from left, Pilar Duplack, Andy Harris, Zoe Linder, Jack Brewer, Julia Solomon-Strauss, Aoife Macman and Gabby Lubin.

## High school speech rights

(continued from page one)

journalists have to practice responsibility and ethics in writing and reporting. I personally received no complaints from parents."

In February Principal Ed Yoder issued a written warning to Ms. Sorrell, a Woodlan native who had been teaching there for four years. The warning accused her of failing to carry out her duties as a teacher. In addition to Ms. Sorrell's being put on leave, Mr. Yoder was named publisher of the paper and a new policy, calling for the prior review of all future issues, was put in place. Assistant Superintendent Andy Melin required all East Allen School District newspapers to publish the new policy, according to the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette.

Mr. Melin says the school's intent was not to limit freedom of speech but to exercise caution when dealing with issues it deemed potentially harmful to younger students.

"The principal did not take issue with the column but with the fact that he was not made aware of the article prior to publication," he said by phone. "Per our district policy, administration and teachers may regulate the content of student publication. Our expectation is that any article that may be viewed as controversial and or sensitive must be shared with the principal prior to publication."

"The primary fact in this case is not one of First Amendment rights and or censorship, but one of professional responsibility and expectations. We expect our principal to promote a collaborative relationship with journalism advisers and student journalists. Their focus should be on protecting students and not restricting them."

"Our district goal is to allow student expression in an appropriate manner and in an appropriate forum. Our emphasis is not on restricting, but protecting student interest."

Tom Gayda, president of the Indiana High School Press Association and vice president of student affairs at North Central High School in Indianapolis, disagrees, arguing that the school's actions and policies reflect a national trend of intolerance and student suppression.

"It's blasphemy," he said in a phone interview. "Some parts of this country have their heads buried in the sand. This is something we should be well past. To be a gay student at that school I

would feel like I was alone and could not turn to someone like my principal or the school district to counsel me if I had questions or were being picked on because of who I am."

The school board will decide whether to fire Ms. Sorrell or reinstate her May 1.

Ms. Sorrell was granted the right to argue for her reinstatement in a public hearing two days before the school board decision.

Jack Groch, Indiana State Teachers Association representative for East Allen, helped push for Ms. Sorrell's hearing and says that the school's message doesn't deal exclusively with free press but also with abuse of power.

"The lesson that kids have learned from this is that power controls," he said. "If you don't like something you can get power to change it. It's a terrible lesson. Students with the principal having the final word as publishers learn how to respond to power in an aggressive way. It throws Hazelwood out the window. Hazelwood states that something has to undermine a valued educational purpose."

"This says that there is no valued purpose, so publish what I say. That's not a newspaper, that's propaganda. The column, which appeared on page three, the opinion page, acknowledged homosexuals as different, and that they should be treated with compassion and understanding. If you turn it around and took out the word homosexual and put in person of color or a short person or a fat person would that have been too sensitive for 7th or 8th graders?"

"If you look on pages four and five, the centerspreads, there are articles on teen pregnancy, teen mothers and syphilis, and the principal didn't think that wasn't appropriate for 7th and 8th graders."

One of seven Midway editors-in-chief, Jeremy Lacocque, senior, explained that he believes Woodlan's policy is counterproductive.

"News is news," he said. "It should be balanced because it is important not to take sides. Giving a balanced story is what we owe the reader. If we fail to include certain ideas or information than that is skewed information, not news. The Midway's editorial page has whatever the staff thinks is important, even if it is controversial and might not be the something that the principal thinks."

# Thanks for a Great SKI SEASON!

## The Ski Club

## It's Getting Warmer...



Photos by Sydney Marcus

Junior Emma Cowen and Freshman Margot Turek laugh and indulge in a favorite pastime: cheddar burgers and cheese fries.

## but the Circle's already hot



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"Mike is really good at baseball. I've been to every home game and I have not once seen him fail to bring it."

—Alex Zimmer, sophomore



## Work ethic pays off for baseball powerman

### Sophomore excels on mound

By Dana Alfassa

Associate editor

"Is anyone here as pumped up as I am?" yells Boys' Varsity Baseball Coach Keronn Walker. He was driving a small white school bus with the varsity baseball team to a 4:30 p.m. game, April 10 against Morgan Park Academy at the U. of C. Andersen field.

"I am," shouts two-year varsity baseballer Mike Casey, sophomore, without a moment's hesitation. Though soft-spoken on the field, the 5 foot 11 inches slender pitcher and leftfielder for the Maroons rarely hesitates to voice his enthusiasm for playing.

Before games, Mike listens to his favorite rap songs on his mini green iPod to get in the zone. Yet, Mike says his mental preparation really begins the night before he plays.

"The night before a game I'll think about whatever it is that I'm going to be doing the next day," Mike said. "If I'm going to hit, I'll visualize myself hitting the ball. If I'm going to pitch, I'll picture myself pitching. In baseball, you don't want to think too much, though. I like to associate baseball with just a sunny day."

"I played basketball, soccer and baseball pretty much every year when I was little," Mike continued. "At 6 or 7, I started playing Little League every summer and on All-Star teams until I turned 12. Then I took two years off and started playing at Lab in 8th grade. Up until last year I was most serious about basketball actually, but I decided on baseball because I wanted to have the preseason to get in shape."

Mike's ties to U-High go deeper than baseball. His mother Cathy Casey is the school's Substitute Coordinator and his sister Clare is a freshman.

"My family's from Bridgeport so we're all Sox fans," Mike said. "All my friends are Cubs fans, but I live on the Southside so how could I not be a Sox fan? My favorite player is Grady Sizemore on the Cleveland Indians, though. I started to pay attention to his game about two years ago when he was a young gun. He's quick and he's got power in his swing. He's



Photo by Alya Forster

Winding up for the pitch, Sophomore Mike Casey delivers a stellar performance against Morgan Park Academy, April 10 at the U. of C. Andersen field. Despite Mike's allowing only two earned runs, the Maroons suffered a 0-10 loss to the Warriors.

also an outfielder like I am, so I try to model my game after his."

With an 11-man roster, boasting freshmen Ethan Chiampas and Daniel Levine, Mike believes having a small squad size has helped him take on a greater leadership role.

"Last year I was kind of timid on the team," Mike said. "I wouldn't really talk to the older guys unless they talked to me first. But this year we have a much smaller, younger team. Before the season started, I took Danny and Ethan aside and told them that I'd told the coaches about them and that if they worked hard, doing the same thing I had to do last year, they might be given the same opportunity to play varsity like I was. For about three weeks in a row, I played catch with Ethan. I think he saw something in my freshman season that he wanted for himself."

A fellow outfielder and close friend, Sophomore Tim Parsons said Mike's determination helps him succeed.

"Mike has an element of concentration and singular focus," Tim said. "As an outfielder, he has a strong arm and a good first step for the ball. He also has a lot more pop in his swing this year. But more than this, Mike is willing to do whatever

it takes to be the best. He's the kind of guy that wants to get in batting practice on Saturday mornings."

## Shooting skills, explosive speed put soccer sophomore in spotlight

By Gretchen Eng

Midway reporter

Amid fans' cheers and coaches' instructions, Sophomore Emily Kuo traps the soccer ball, winds up and takes a powerful shot from midfield. Her teammates stare as the ball whips through the air and barely enters the goal's frame, making the fourth goal, Emily's second, of U-High's 6-0 win against Lane Technical High School, March 30 on Jackman Field. "Well, that's one way to score," said Varsity Coach Mike Moses.

Featured in an April 13 Chicago Sun-Times story, Emily has played soccer for 10 years, starting on varsity last year as a freshman.

Emily said she didn't start out with the passion she now has for the game, but joined the sport only after her brother, '05 U-High graduate and Midway Editor-in-Chief John Kuo, decided to play.

"It was originally my brother that begged my parents to play," she explained. "I just sort of

followed along. I started in AYSO and liked it, so I played that for five years. For the last two years I was playing on a traveling team as well, but then I switched to just playing traveling. I've guest played on a couple of traveling teams such as Lake Front and Taxco, but mainly on the Hyde Park Storm."

Knicknamed E-Kuo by her teammates, Emily maximizes her speed and superior ball handling by playing center-midfield most often, though she frequently plays front-forward.

"I usually enjoy playing center-mid," Emily said. "But Moses puts me at forward a lot as well, which is great because I like taking shots. It's a lot of fun. But it really depends on the situation, what people I'm playing with. I think I like playing mid more because of the running. Running is my favorite part of the sport, aside from playing on a team. I like passing and facing off with other people."

"I've also played with a lot of the same

people since the beginning, especially on traveling and continuing to play with them is a way of keeping in touch and being with them. I really don't know what it is that keeps me coming back each season, but I always want to."

Having watched Emily play with his daughter, Freshman Amelia Acosta, on her traveling team, Assistant Coach Carlos Acosta helped Mr. Moses decide to bring Emily up to varsity last year.

"I saw Emily play for the first time when she was in 8th grade on the Storm with Amelia," Coach Acosta said. "I could see right from the start that she was an extremely gifted athlete. She was and continues to be easy to coach and responds to what she's asked very well. She's got excellent endurance and has the very rare quality of being able to give 100 percent at all times."

"There are so many spectacular things she's done, but I particularly remember one game where she showed up really sleepy and told me that she just took a nap. During that game she scored three goals and everyone said she should take a nap more often."

Offering constructive criticism where she sees fit, Emily has become a team leader, believes Senior Molly Schloss, cocaptain with Seniors Allie Brudney, Natalie Lewis and Erica Zagaja.

"I had heard about Emily for several years," Molly said. "But I first got to see her playing preseason in her freshman year. I was impressed right away and I saw that she clearly knew her way around the ball. It can be a little scary for freshmen starting out on varsity, but Emily always played her game and didn't let the age difference get in the way."

"She's just been awesome so far and she continues to be a great leader on the field, not only because she plays well and gives you something to copy, but because she will often stop to constructively correct you, which is very helpful to the team. It's her way of helping out and letting you know that she's there for you."



Photo by Rachel Hanessian

Boldly lunging for the ball, Sophomore Emily Kuo confronts a Walter Payton defender, April 9 on Jackman Field. The Maroons lost 1-2.

## KEEPING SCORE

### BOYS' TENNIS

**Latin**, April 5, home: Varsity won 3-2; **Sandburg**, April 9, home: Varsity won 4-1, j.v. won 3-2; **North Shore Country Day**, April 10, away: Varsity won 4-1; **Elgin Academy**, April 12, home: Varsity won 5-0, j.v. won 3-1; **Brother Rice Tournament**, April 14, away: Varsity placed 2nd of 6; **Oak Park River Forest**, April 17, home: Varsity lost 1-4, j.v. lost 0-5; **Morgan Park High**, April 18, away: Varsity lost 2-3; **Morgan Park Academy**, April 20, away: Varsity won 3-0, j.v. won 3-0.

### TRACK AND FIELD

**Chicago Christian**, April 10, away: U-High girls placed 1st of 6 with 135 points, boys placed 1st of 6 with 166 points; **Luther North Invitational**, April 17, away: U-High girls placed 2nd of 3 with 54 points, boys placed 1st of 3 with 66 points.

### BOYS' BASEBALL

**Parker**, March 27, home: Varsity lost 2-3, j.v. lost 6-8; **Manteno**, March 28, away: Varsity lost 3-4; **Quigley Prep**, March 29, home: Varsity won 7-4, j.v. won 25-3; **Lake Forest Academy**, April 5, away: Varsity lost 3-13, j.v. lost 5-33 at home; **Latin**, April 10, home: J.V. lost 15-17; **Chicago Christian**, April 16, away: Varsity lost 6-10; **North Shore Country Day**, April 17, away: Varsity lost 6-9; **Parker**, April 18, away: Varsity won 16-10, j.v. lost 3-13; **Hales Franciscan**, April 19, home: Varsity won 24-17.

### GIRLS' SOCCER

**Whitney Young**, March 27, home: Varsity won 2-0, j.v. won 2-0; **Lane Tech**, March 30, home: Varsity won 6-0, j.v. tied 0-0; **Walter Payton**, April 9, home: Varsity lost 1-2, j.v. lost 0-7; **North Shore Country Day**, April 13, home: Varsity won 7-0; **Lake Park Tournament**, April 14, away: Varsity lost 2-4 to Elk Grove; **Jones**, April 16, away: Varsity won 6-0, j.v. won 7-0; **Lake Forest Academy**, April 17, away: Varsity won 5-2; **Mother McAuley**, April 19, home: Varsity won 4-0, j.v. lost 0-5.

### SQUASH

Junior Nick Sisodia placed 2nd at the Illinois State Squash Championship for Men, March 24 in Chicago. Nick is currently ranked 22nd in the under 19s in the nation.

### IRISH DANCING

Competing in the Irish Dancing World Championships, April 5, in Glasgow, Scotland, Sophomore Sarah Tully and her 16-member team became the first American team to win gold. Sarah is currently ranked 8th in the Midwest Region.



Sarah





**"Charlie has solid shots and is consistent and can easily act as a model for upcoming players; more or less C. Fish is a great catch."**  
 -Tom Stanley-Becker, sophomore

## Runners aim high in quest for excellence

By Harley Chang  
 Associate editor

With just a few weeks left in the track season, Senior Iain MacDonald isn't satisfied with 4 minutes and 39 seconds, the best mile time he has posted. He wants to break four minutes and 24 seconds, the school record set in 1990 by Dan McGinn, '91 graduate, in his junior year. Dan McGinn is also Iain's coach.

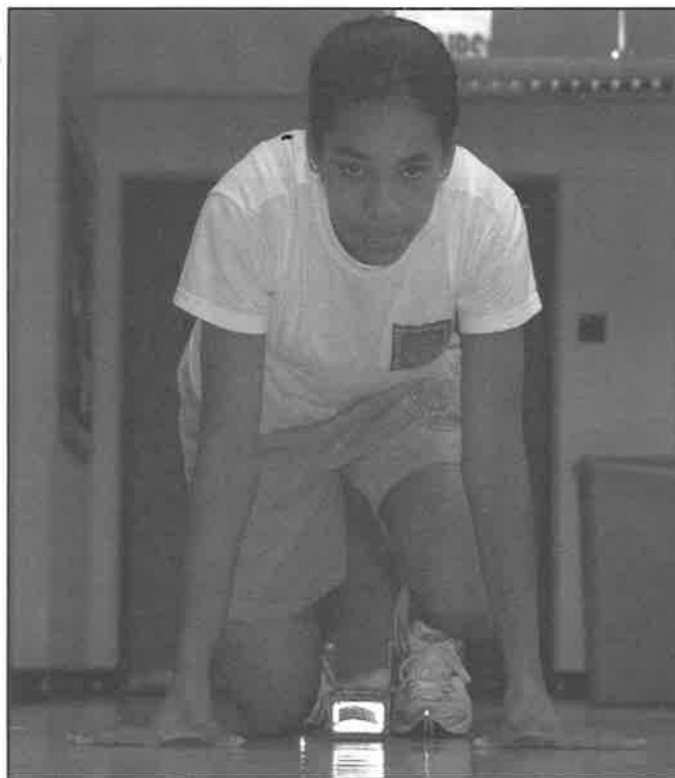
Iain comes from a family of runners, his father participating in marathons and both sisters running on the Lab Schools track team, but he didn't originally plan to run.

"When I was a freshman, I started the year thinking I would just play baseball," he explained. "But I decided to try out cross country and found out I was pretty good at it.

"From cross country, it was kind of intuitive to move to long distance track. Mr. James has been a great mentor. He's always there when you need him for anything and he's always open to suggestions. Coach McGinn has also been great to work with. He's the one who holds our school's mile record so he knows what it's like to be one of the fastest high schoolers out there."

Originally running both the 4 x 800 relay and the 1600 mile, Iain committed to the mile this season.

"My commitment is something I'm always proud of, always showing up to practice when I can and staying with track all four years," he said. "Actually, I wished I was more committed and trained harder than I did, especially during the breaks. I now know that past training is more important and prepares



Freshman Sarah Lloyd

you for upcoming races better. Now, I run on Saturdays as well as going to practices on the weekdays and I maintain that schedule throughout the year, even during breaks."

Proud and surprised that his record has remained unbroken for 17 years, Coach McGinn believes Iain is close to breaking his record, although he said it will not be easy.

"Seventeen years is plenty of time for my record to stay on the record board," Mr. McGinn said. "I would feel really proud that someone I coached broke my own record and similarly, I'd feel disappointed for him if he didn't.

"Breaking the record is something Iain greatly wants, although, admittedly, it would be nice to have my name up a bit longer.



Photos by Emily Chiu

Senior Iain MacDonald

With just the right weather and just the right competition, maybe a sunny day at State Prelims, and Iain's name will replace mine."

Inspired by her mother, Freshman Sarah Lloyd started running in 5th grade at Frances Xavier Ward Middle School downtown.

"I just love the feeling of being uncatchable when I run," she said. "The team is very different from my middle school team in that it's like another family almost, my teammates are always cheering for me and never put me down.

"From the team, I learned that while everyone runs individually, track is very much a team sport. I also learned that running is more fun when you focus on becoming better instead of just winning. I've seen this

amazing attitude in Melanie McClain, who I view as my mentor. She has the perseverance to keep going and never give up, even when she's exhausted."

Melanie, a senior and one of Sarah's mentors, said Sarah's Middle School track experience and natural talent has made her one of the team's fastest sprinters.

"Freshmen usually need to be taught how to start, hand off a baton, and so on," Melanie said. "When Sarah started running with the team, no one had to teach her anything, she already knew it all. If I didn't know better, I would have said she was running her third year. She's always running up at the front with the upperclassmen during practices, and has the confidence to pass anyone she can."

## Tennis standout enjoys following strict regime

By Evan Dorfman  
 Editor-in-Chief

Golf, soccer, weight lifting and skeet shooting. Not quite the typical tennis players' offseason sports menu.

But for three-year varsity player Charlie Fisher, those sports provide the keys to preparing him for second doubles teamwork with Junior Nick Sisodia.

"I always come in to preseason already in shape," Charlie said as he picked up his racket, sporting a closely cropped, blonde buzz cut and sharp blue eyes. "We have to run a lot on the varsity soccer team so from the beginning of the year I'm well conditioned.

"After the soccer season I play a lot of golf and lift weights, so I maintain strength throughout the winter. I think my off-season is part of the reason I've started off the season well.

"We won our first match and I think we'll be winning a lot more. We have some good freshmen on the team and solid upperclassmen talent."

Always enthusiastic and always hungry is how Nick described his partner.

"Charlie will always make sure to take team food and horde it for himself," Nick said. "He is a really funny guy and he is



Photo by Emma Lantos

Senior Charlie Fisher

never afraid to voice his opinion. He is very driven and he'll never lose his intensity. As a doubles team we have a few superstitions. We both wear sunglasses in every match and before every match we dedicate the game to "The Big Man on Top."

Charlie started playing tennis at the age of 6 at Arlington Club, his northern suburban golf club.

"Tennis was just a sport I started playing because it seemed like it would be a blast," he explained. "I began playing more and more and when I came to U-High I figured I'd give tennis team a shot. I hope to play through college and into adulthood. I'm not good enough to play varsity tennis in college, but I hope to play in intramural leagues."

Away from the court, Charlie said that school work dominates his time, however, in the free time he has, he enjoys playing video games and relaxing at home.

"Between Model U.N. and taking a history class at the University, I am usually always bogged down in work. In the little free time I have I love playing video games like 'Command and Conquer.' I really treat tennis practice after school as free time for me."

CHECK OUT the full-length C.D. from 2000 U-High alumni Neil Dasgupta's hip-hop group Melodic Scribes, "Se Formo."

THIRTEEN NEW TRACKS featuring guest stars Antimatter, Katastrophe, Caroline Yohanan of Frequency Below ([www.frequencybelow.com](http://www.frequencybelow.com)) and Billy Kirst of The Apollo Project ([www.theapolloprojectband.com](http://www.theapolloprojectband.com))

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## Winter sports honors

### GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Freshman Christina Smith, Sophomore Alexis Jenkins and Junior Lucy O'Keefe received All-ISL 1st team honors.

### BOYS' BASKETBALL

Sophomore Zeke Upshaw received All-ISL 1st team and IHSCA All-State honorable mention.

Junior Dan Hornung also received All-ISL honorable mention.





# ≡WHEELS & THINGS≡



With gas prices so high it's expensive to drive a car. Luckily Junior Yuwen Wu knows where to go to get affordable transportation.

**Wheels and Things**, located in downtown Harper Court, has brand name bikes such as Terry Precision for Women, Giant and Fuji, plus accessories at low prices.



Photos  
by  
Zack  
Slouka

## GREAT CHOICE YUWEN!



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