Musical will celebrate 'The Grimmest of All'

By Kyle Brunke
Midway reporter

Dancing amid swaying, gesturing lights, storytellers in stark black costumes beckon the audience to step into a strange, new world where fairy tales come to life.

Staging student-written scenes and music adapted from Grimm’s Fairy Tales and other stories, the Rites of May production “The Grimmest Celebration of All” will be presented 8 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 17-19 on a stage with careening steps and elevated platforms outside the cafeteria. Tickets are available in Blaine Lobby for $10. The annual Rites of May festivities will precede the play, 5-7 p.m., Thursday and Friday, in Blaine Courtyard.

Festivalgoers can choose from dining booths offering egg rolls and pot stickers, sponsored by the Asian Students’ Association; bratwurst, German Club; and ice cream, the Black Students’ Association. Among the dining booths games including geography, go-fish and ring toss, sponsored by student groups will entice fairgoers. Tickets for food and games will be sold at Blaine Hall windows and Jazz Band will perform during the evenings.

The third Rites of May fairy tale-based production, this year’s performance portrays comical, morbid parodies of the enchanted and unbelievable. Portraying ‘The Three Little Pigs’ and ‘Rumpelstiltskin,’ among others, the cast will move across the broad, open area in a series of successive dances and songs.

“This particular play is fun to stage because of my previous experience in directing this specific production,” Drama Teacher Lucia Ambrosini said. “This time, I’m deciding to put a little comedy into this unique learning experience. The students are writing their own songs and dance numbers, an often challenging and troubling aspect. They have to learn the correct staging, lighting and choreography.

“This is a specific type of play where all people should come to see and enjoy the stories that they grew up with. This play doesn’t contain a central story but rather is a compilation of fairy tales. There’s no comparing between this play and the others. It contains completely original and different material from the other ones. It’s timeless. There might be live musicians but we haven’t decided yet.”

Flare and flamboyance will create intricate light sequences enhancing dance movements, according to Student Assistant Director Aaron Weiss, junior.

“This is basically a parody of some of the most famous pieces in literature history,” Aaron said. “I want to exaggerate the costumes and makeup and highlight the gestures and movements - a lot of flashing lights that display the surreal feeling of a Grimm’s Fairy Tale. The lighting provides for an easy form of choreography that I hope to evoke. I’ve participated in U-High theatre during my freshman and sophomore years.”

Detailed layered costumes, strewn with beads and bandanas, will envelope the cast within a thin layer of eccentric clothing, according to Costumes Mistress Amanda Faraone, senior.

“Since this is a play dealing with strange and peculiar places, I wanted to create a style where these characteristics are best presented,” Amanda said. “There’s going to be a lot of color and over-the-top clothing. Crazy hairstyles, with spiked strands of hair, will definitely excite the crowd.

“For some of the better known characters of the Grimm’s Fairy Tales, I’ll be utilizing the same clothing they wore in their stories. Visually, it’s going to be amazing. It’s different than anything I’ve done before and hopefully makeup will provide a key aspect in displaying the absurd.”

With three years of songwriting experience, Musical Director Nick Feder, senior, believes this year’s songs provide qualities that the audience can identify with.

“The audience should feel immersed with each individual character,” Nick said. “The lyrics have to be funny and dramatic at the same time. This is a very serious undertaking and we don’t want the audience to immediately think of it as a joke. In order to write the songs, I wrote poetry based off fairy tales. Mrs. Ambrosini hired Lab School alumni to help us write the

(continues on next page)
Two participants travel -

to China to teach, experience

By Matt Luchins
Midway reporter

Producing and directing a film telling the story of a waiter at a 24-hour Mexican diner in Lincoln Park, Jeff Biehl-Aykut, Jeremy Lasocq and Elliot Popko are among 90 seniors, seven of which are traveling internationally, who began their May Project last week.

May Project was started by the Class of 1969 to enable seniors to explore careers, create independent projects or perform community service in place of some or all classes the final month of school. Over the years, the qualifying procedure has changed, but a faculty sponsor has always been required, along with the approval of a faculty committee. A research component and a presentation are included.

Jeff, Jeremy and Elliot financed their project with the help of their adviser, Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler, who connected them with Columbia College Professor Joseph Stiff, former U-High Video Yearbook adviser. Mr. Stiff found them a company willing to fund them. The trio then set out to find a restaurant for their film. They found El Presidente at 2359 North Ashland Avenue, whose manager was most willing to work with them.

“We looked at a list of 24-hour diners and visited a few of them. El Presidente was the only place that immediately gave us permission to film,” Mr. Biehl-Aykut said. “We could afford to concentrate on things like lighting and re-liquid the script because we got matching funds from SpaldFellow, an independent production company. The film will be challenging because I’m planning to have done two films together, but this is the first time we’ll be directing other actors. This is Jeremy’s first film, but he’s working on the technical aspects and he’s had a lot of experience doing that in theater.”

Since becoming May Project Coordinator two years ago, College Counselor Will Dix has tried and succeeded in raising May Project participation by adding new activities and options. The year before he became coordinator, 35 seniors pursued May Projects, less than half the number participating this year.

“My first year,” Mr. Dix said, “I worked with the Community Service Coordinator at the time, Ms. Susan Grase, to start the May Service Project, which lets students do community service for their May Project,” Mr. Dix said. “We also opened the presentations to all ages and gave Lower School teachers a list of seniors’ projects, so if one fits into their classroom work they can invite the student to come in and give their presentation.”

Seven seniors are traveling internationally this month, including Harley Chang and Phil Jacobson, both traveling to China. Harley is creating a scrapbook to teach English. Phil is documenting his trip.

Senior Holly Reid takes photos of a far South Side neighborhood for her May Project.

“Tracing my family tree has been something I’ve always wanted to do. It’s interesting to know where you come from.”

-Allana Tachauer, senior

Trio of filmmakers among 90 May Project seniors

ARTS — Shooting top dance: Tyrone Alexander, Brian Pagliai, recording with Welldiva; Richard Adame, Jacob Zhou, directing and developing a video game, Michael School; Elizabeth Liu, Matt Mackibun, Kurtie Samoo, Andrew Sagnugy, learning to cook; Simon Lockwood, Polina Sabala, Michael Reganbloom, Bruce Roman, Amrita Roth, Hannah Rodricks, Jared Spitz, Brad Spano, Tara Summonte, Max Tzapli, Daniel Wheaton. Learning illustration and photography: Sarah Frewen, recording musical C.D. demos; Corin Brown, developing skills in lighting and stage design; Elizabeth Form, explaining the emotions evoked by photography: Alessandra Coleman, learning contemporary flute music: Max Croydon; painting portraits on ivory: Lily Deert, Katherine Landeski, drawing a graphic novel of his experience in the U.K.: Sam Dawson, slideshow with sound of Mary activity: Nicholas Fidler, plotting and training and photography: Tom Frastena, photographing birds and other wildlife: Ivan Gritz, developing flexibility for a musical theatre career: onion Loewe, building a kit car: Ivan Monowidjojo, programming a 3-D computer game: High. Monday, Paul Schweder, painting self-portraits (and working at an Ethiopian shelter): Sabra Redleaf; photographing different Chicago neighborhoods: Holly Reid Indian dances and instruction: Brandi Boppie, making a documentary on competitive gaming: Samuel Starcher.

Rites of May and play

(continued from front page)

songs. The songs describe why each character is the way he or she is. By the time the play is

making a documentary on com-

posing and developing a video play: Samuel Shraiberg; interning at a media company: Victoria Thomas, exploring how accounts are applied in real life: Shinya Wang.

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In classic setting, Prom introduces dining innovation

By Gretchen Eng

Two by two, almost like a history lesson, Rigorous rehearsals are preceding a vocal concert May 29 at Ida Noyes Hall at the High School Concert will perform. The girls, from left, are Amanda Dixon, Hannah Chaskin, Annchellie Akuamoah and Lauline Gough.

Choirs to combine in song for concert climaxing year

By Tom Stanley-Becker

It’s a capping a year of hard work with a mighty Joel Jones’ song, “For the Longest Time.” U-High singing groups will join in song at a Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, May 20 at Ida Noyes Hall.

With the High School Choir, the concert will feature a female group, Bella Voce (Italian for “beautiful voice”); Bel Canto (Italian for “beautiful sound”), which added boys this year and a trio, Duslaire, composed of Seniors Claire Redfield, Delaney Nichols and Sally Cochrane.

Produced by Choir Director Katy Sinclair, the program will range from music by Cat Stevens and George and Ira Gershwin to madrigals, Carl Orff’s “Omnia Sol” and Latin Motets performed a capella.

Voting for the concert is both as a finale and farewell, participants feel it sums up a year of learning and progress.

“The highlight is when all the choirs sing together to honor the seniors who are leaving,” Sophomore Kelly Kovacs said. “The strong singers in Bel Canto are presidents, Delaney Nichols and Claire Redfield. They work really hard to make the group really bee.”

“At first, I was really intimidated by them since they were really good. They taught me to be confident. They have been really good leaders and good friends.”

Merging Delaney, Sally and Claire’s voices, Duslaire was begun years ago, Claire recalled.

“We have been singing together since Middle School, Claire said. “It has been going on for so long that our voices automatically meld because it’s a secret.”

For Ms. Sinclair, the Choir expresses the essence of community.

“People can dance throughout the evening from the moment they walk in the door,” Eric said. “For the most part, we’ll just let the D.J. do his thing, but we’ve made some requests for songs that are memorable to the senior class. We also looked over the playlists for Formal and basically just added a lot of music that’s easy to dance to.”

“Everyone will be asked to vote for one boy and one girl,” Kathy said. “The choirs have then offered to tabulate the votes and once they’re tallied, we’ll announce the winners later on, probably toward the end. We’ll call them over to the stage area we’re designated for the coronation and crown them.”

Parking will be offered in the Millennium Park Garage or along Randolph Street.

Champions are as follows:

Dean of Students Larry McKeon, Principal Keith Horvat, Mrs. Brian Wildon, Mrs. Ann Alard, Ms. Bob Bochardt, Mrs. Deborah Stihlman, Mrs. Shimon Houtzower, Mr. D avid Dobin, Mr. Stanley Houtzower, Mr. Ronald Houtzower, Mr. Chris Harper and Mr. David Stihlman.

Four win Merit grants

Four U-High seniors have won National Merit Scholarships, according to Learning and Counseling Director Will Dix.

More recipients are to be named later.

The recipients announced so far are Alex Gomez and Rebecca Resnik, who received grants from the National Merit Corporation; Andy Kern, who received a scholarship from the Grainger Corporation; and Sally Cochrane, early graduate who received a scholarship from the University of Chicago.

Andy is among four seniors receiving Robert E. Byrd Honors Scholarships for exceptional achievement. The federally-funded program is administered by state education agencies.

The other U-High winners are Katherine Lauderdale, Elizabeth Lin and Beanie Meadow.

Scholarship winners and recipients of other awards this year will be honored at the annual Awards Assembly, 9-11 a.m., Monday, June 4 at Max Palevsky theatre in Ida Noyes Hall.

Winners of service awards and school- and department-awarded honors will be revealed the first time.
Mario: “Girl what’s your name? Let me talk to you. Let me buy you a Drank (A Medici Drank that is!) I’m MARIO! You know me!”

Mario: “I’m about to buy you a Drank when I take you to the Medici. I got money in the bank! Girl what do you think about that? How about a Medici Drank for two?”

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Teachers' turn to learn

“No one can guarantee you an ‘A’ in life.” With these concluding words, University of Chicago biology professor Martha Rosner emphasized that teachers should educate students about how to learn for life instead of gathering facts and kicked off Faculty In-Service Day, April 20. Mrs. Rosner delivered the event’s keynote speech with her husband Robert, a U. of C. astronomy and astrophysics professor. They both discussed their personal teaching experiences and philosophies.

Former Lab School parents, the Rosners incorporated humor and anecdotes into an PowerPoint presentation with scientific facts and theories, captivating the Lower, Middle and High School teachers at the event.

Continuing the day’s scientific theme, some teachers toured the U. of C. science facilities. Others participated in interactive demonstrations, watched films and heard lectures by U. of C. professors for the remainder of the day.

Competitive teams crown year of achievements

By Linda Huber
Midway reporter

Placing 1st at State April 29 at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, Math Team members and advisers celebrated the following Monday over cheese pizza and cake after besting 2nd place team Herrin by nearly 100 points.

More than 200 schools participated in the competition, sponsored by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. U-High topped the 50 competitors in its division for schools with an enrollment from 400 to 999.

Also, at the State Science Olympiad, April 21, U-High placed seventh out of 37 schools. Individual Math Team honors were earned by the following:

FIRST PLACE - Joey Klonowski, Algebra I.
SECOND PLACE - Bradley Spahn, Precalculus.
THIRD PLACE - Zach Reneno-Wedeen, Algebra I; Frank Pite, Algebra II.

Sixth Place - Katherine Lauderdale and assistant Frank Pite, Orals.

Seventh Place - Emily Kuo, Geometry.
Eighth Place - David Xu, Algebra II, Hugh Montag, Precalculus.

Tenth Place - Karthik Sarma, Precalculus.

Team honors went to the following:
SECOND PLACE - Frank Pite, David Xu, Katherine Zhou, Maria Brukova, David McAlpine, Won-Hee Lee, Algebra II: Andrew Sugaya, David McAlpine, Daniel Simmons-Marengo, Karthik Sarma, Elisabeth Morant, Calculus: Emily Kuo, Linda Zhao, Elisabeth Morant, Algebra I.
SECOND PLACE - Frank Firke, David Xu, Josh Rosner, Andy Kern, Maria Brukova, Won-Hee Lee, David Xu, Katherine Zhou, Benne Rosner, Jr./Sr. Relay Team 2.
THIRD PLACE - Hugh Montag, Josh Rosner, Andy Kern, Maria Brukova, Won-Hee Lee, David Xu, Katherine Zhou, Benne Rosner, Jr./Sr. Eighth-person.
Eighth Place - Emily Kuo, Aaron Buikema, Fr./So. two-person.

Individual Science Team medal winners are as follows:
Astronomy: Aaron Buikema and Ethel Yang, 4th; Designing Genes: Andrew Sugaya and Katherine Zhou, 2nd; Disease Detectives: Maria Brukova and Elisabeth Morant, 2nd; Food Science: Maria Brukova and May Fu, 3rd; Forensics: Leo Carlan and Elisabeth Morant, 4th; Oceanography: Aaron Buikema and Leo Carlan, 3rd; Recreations: Mary Fu and Maria Brukova, 3rd; Robot: Karthik Sarma and Daniel Simmons-Marengo, 3rd.

As powerful images and quotes flashed on the screen behind them (photos from top), juniors Yoolim Kim, Alexa Mine and Linnea Madison and sophomore Joey Mintel opened the Holocaust Memorial Assembly, April 25, playing Handel’s “Passacaglia.” Another 21 student groups paid tribute by singing, discussing their family’s experiences and reading poetry.

With candles burning next to her to symbolize remembrance, Holocaust survivor Fritzie Fritzshall spoke poignantly about her time in a concentration camp and the tragedy’s personal aftermath.

Standing to the side of the acts and speakers, Junior Sydney Marcus and other U-Highers softly read the names of every child killed during the Holocaust throughout the entire assembly.
Tragedy strikes but doesn’t penetrate the U-High routine

MOMENTS OF SILENCE. Candle-lit vigils. All-school assemblies. When a Virginia Tech University senior shot 32 students and teachers and then himself last month in Blacksburg, Virginia, schools across the country paid their respects. But as America mourned, it seemed like U-High barely noticed.

Expelled, at least discuss the Virginia Tech Massacre, as many call it, it noticed that little, if any, conversation took place at school at all. Sitting in classes and in the cafeteria, I heard no one comment on the tragedy that I had seen all over the papers and news the day before. Instead, I heard talk about how much homework we have, or how tired we are, or the new group of the day as usual.

In fact, I came to the impression that barely anyone knew about it. Wondering if anyone else felt the same way, I asked my friend Junior Eva Jaeger about her opinion.

"In all of my classes not one teacher mentioned Virginia Tech," Eva said. "I was shocked that the school didn’t try to heighten security or at least to appear true. I was also surprised that couldn’t descendant didn’t address the students. As a school we are part of the U. of C. and I think that because we’re part of a university there definitely should have been some sort of ceremony, whether it be a safety assembly or time to mourn."

Thinking about whether a prompt assembly would have been beneficial for U-High, it occurred to me that many of us seemed too caught up in our own agendas of homework and extracurricular activities to think about what had happened, those it affected and how it affects us.

Maybe we have to assume that such a catastrophe couldn’t happen at U-High, that because the shootings didn’t happen on our campus in Chicago, we are untouched. But whether the shootings took place 10 miles from U-High or 1,000 miles from U-High, the shootings at Virginia Tech aren’t something that we’re overlooked or disregarded. But beyond that, as fellow students we are responsible to honor those who were lost and should be held to that responsibility.

As a school, especially a school affiliated with a university, we are connected to Virginia Tech but more importantly as well rounded people we owe those victims and survivors our time. Perhaps for some that time would be spent mourning, for others maybe asking themselves why it happened. But regardless as to how we individually react, the U-High community has an obligation not only to those affected by Virginia Tech, but also to ourselves to acknowledge such a tragedy.

Say What?

Compiled by Arias Lewis

If you could live an entire year in one weather condition, would you choose to live in inconsistently rainy, lightly snowy, or extremely sunny 83 degree weather?

LUCY DONNER, senior: Well, when it’s snowing outside I feel very cheerful, so I would love to have light snow. I also like this type of weather because I think that Chicago looks pretty when it’s snowy and because light snow is just enough to stay white and it’s not hard to tread through.

YOOLIM KIM, junior: I would choose to live in rainy weather because I would love to stay inside and look outside the window, watching the rain droplets gather on the window sill. Also, gloomy weather like rain would set a nice setting for a year filled with calmness and serenity.

JOSEPH HURST, sophomore: I would choose to live in extremely sunny and 83 degree weather because I think that warm weather makes people much more cheerful. However, when there is precipitation, the general attitudes of people go down and people tend to be in bad moods. Also, if it were always hot, I would be able to take plenty of trips to the beach.

As the Midway sees it

Putting the ‘culture’ back into C.U.

I t seems that the “cultural” has disappeared from Cultural Union. Cultural Union originated as Social Union, one of three branches of student government. Student Council served as the legislative and governing body, Social Union as the planner of social and cultural events and Student Board as the disciplinary branch.

Student Board was eventually dropped and later refashioned into a faculty and student board. Social Union became Cultural Union to emphasize its responsibilities beyond dances and parties.

But in recent years the cultural part of its responsibilities have diminished and ultimately disappeared. C.U.’s year has come down to two social events, the Homecoming and Formal Dances.

These events represent major undertakings and C.U. has completed them admirably. They have become highly-anticipated highlights of the school year. But after Formal in February C.U. has tended to trend in March that a student told a teacher when her classmates cheated on a midterm.

Attempts at April dances have been made but not been completed and attempts at other events haven’t fared well either. This year C.U. announced an Independent School League talent show for April 28 and signs went up in March publicizing it.

But auditions didn’t get scheduled until April 19 and they were announced in the Daily Bulletin only two days before that. Any talent show, much less one involving other schools, requires months of organizing, planning and staging. And talent can’t be expected to come out and try out for a show that will give them no time to prepare if they are chosen to perform.

Little interest was shown, but that wasn’t the talent’s fault.

U-High MIDWAY

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Cultural Union to emphasize its responsibilities beyond dances and parties.

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10-second editorial

You snooze, you lose. Or at least that’s what the scientific talent’s fault.

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10-second editorial

You snooze, you lose. Or at least that’s what the scientific community is saying as the rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere continue to rise.

The phenomenon known as global warming has been debated since the 1970s, revolving around the theory that human industrial and other activity has been affecting the earth’s temperature. Although some U-Highers have strong opinions on the topic, it’s strange that the student body as a whole seems detached from the issue. It’s surprising that U-Highers haven’t brought awareness to the community or created clubs and organizations concerning the global debate. Whether U-Highers choose to inform themselves and others or not, it’s usually better to be safe than sorry.

And C.U. doesn’t always have to undertake major events. Opportunities abound for low-cost, easy and enjoyable events to enrich student life and boost spirit and morale: a student-faculty basketball game, a pep rally, poetry readings, student band performances or guest speaker, for instance.

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**Popular game offers thrill of strategizing at a cosmic level**

ONLY ONE WORD can describe Supreme Commander: pow !

Receiving excellent reviews including an Editor Choice Award from PC Gamer magazine, real time strategy game Supreme Commander puts three futuristic sides against each other.

The United Earth Federation (UEF) fights to unite everyone under their empire, the religious Aeon Illuminate tries to cleanse the galaxy of unbelievers and the cyborgs of the Cybran Nation struggle for their freedom.

As commander of the side you choose, you wield supreme commanding power, hence the title of the game.

Since most maps are large, scrolling around to micromanage everything is unnecessary.

However, the game gives you an unprecedented amount of power to control your units, making it unnecessary for strict micromanaging that real time strategy games have become known for.

With commands such as patrol and assist, simply give orders to your units and forget about them, knowing that they’ll attack anyone they see on their patrol cycle or help a unit in trouble.

This easy command system pioneers the game genre and allows more concentration on what real-time strategy games are supposed to be about.

If you ever want to look at the whole battlefield to plan ahead, just zoom out with a scroll of the mouse wheel. Seeing the whole map on your screen, with all of your units and your opponents’ units color coded, allows you to think as if the battlefield is like some big chess board.

Or, if you want to give commands to individual units on the battlefield, just zoom in to where you can truly appreciate the graphics of the game and make an individual unit do as you wish.

Plan and strategize all you want, but the power of your armies wins battles in the end and nothing does that better than building superweapons, called experimental units. Extremely costly and time consuming to build, experimental units range from a gigantic artillery that can strike anywhere on the map to a mobile factory.

You may have to stop everything you’re doing to make an experimental weapon within a reasonable amount of time, but when you create one, you can be sure your opponent’s armies will fall.

However, power is also the game’s weakness.

Playing this game requires a powerful computer and even then, on its best settings, large scale battles can easily bring such powerhouses to their knees.

For an eight person skirmish to run at an acceptable pace, a computer from the time of Supreme Commander would probably be required.
Global warming talk heats up with findings

By Jeffrey Bishak-Aykal
Associate editor

Through the scientific community has been discussing global warming since the 1970s, the issue has intensified even more in light of a February 7 U.N. scientific panel report claiming humans are “very likely” affecting the earth’s temperatures. Progressives in Congress and skeptical conservatives such as Oklahoma Senator James M. Inhofe, have been quoted as calling the theory a “hoax.”

Scientists have widely attributed the cause of global warming to increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and the fact that the earth’s atmosphere traps the gas. Many fear that if enough carbon dioxide gets stuck in the atmosphere, average temperatures will increase causing polar ice caps to melt and sea levels to rise.

For this reason, 169 countries have ratified the Kyoto Protocol, agreeing to cut emissions five percent from 1990 levels by 2012. Still, the international community is pressuring the U.S., which has not yet ratified the Kyoto Protocol and is responsible for 25 percent of the world’s emissions, to tackle the problem.

One of many U-Highers seeking to conserve the environment, Sophomore Christina Verdiame, a member of Terra and the National Resources Defense Council, said small improvements have already been made.

“I think it is good that people are starting to realize there is a problem,” Christina said. “This has happened throughout the last couple of years. Things like Al Gore’s movie, ‘An Inconvenient Truth,’ have helped a lot. Still, people don’t do as much as they can.”

Senior Zak Feldman, who loves nature, said he worries that the effects of global warming will affect certain people disproportionately and intensely impact the environment.

“I’m not worried about my own life or many at U-High because the people at the school on average tend to be better off than many others,” Zak explained. “But for others who are very poor, it will affect them a lot. I see it more as a moral issue than something that will affect me.”

Greatly concerned about global warming’s effects, Zak is one of a number of U-Highers who feel they are making efforts to help the problem.

“T’d say this last year I’ve gotten really into learning about global warming and I’ve become more obsessive about saving gas and recycling,” he said. “I try to drive less whenever I can and walk instead.”

While some U-Highers feel individual efforts can help, others say consequences are unavoidable unless the government takes action.

“A great first step would be to ratify the Kyoto Protocol,” Christina said. “But if the U.S. does not sign and ratify it, this hinders their whole international community. I don’t think being pessimistic is ever helpful, but if we don’t turn things around there will be severe effects. Gore doesn’t have to do anything today, it’s going to be up to us as a generation to solve the problem.”

Currently researching global warming and the effects it has on the world, University of Chicago Professor of Geophysical Sciences David Rowley, professor and Sophomore Jason Rowley said global warming will cause a number of changes in the local environment, even if it does not affect Chicago as much as other large cities.

“If you place like Chicago is likely to see an increase in storminess, so there will be more extreme weather,” Professor Rowley said. “Areas such as Colorado will be more extreme earlier in the spring, but the average will be much more extreme within the rest of the year.”

“Already, eight out of the 10 warmest years have been in the last decade, which is quite disturbing.”

Midway leads with most awards in two state press competitions

Nine Midway staff members will be honored for their work Saturday at an awards lunch at the Illinois Women’s Press Association at the Union League Club in the Loop.

The Midway won the most awards of any newspaper in the state this year’s IPIA high school journalism contest.

First place honors in the features category went to Junior David Magli for his story in the December 12 issue, “Paying the Price for Beauty.”

Both 2nd and 3rd place honors in the graphics category went to Sophomore Eric Cochran for illustrating David’s story and the spread “R U Game.”

For feature photo, Junior Alya Forster took 2nd place for a panoramic photo reflected in mirrors and Senior Rachel Hanessian took 3rd place for a panoramic view of the Black Students’ Association food drive.

Other recipients were as follows:

SECOND PLACE—Single page layout: Mona Daqquhafor February 7 issue; sports, Phil Jacobson fot “From Court to Kick.”

THIRD PLACE—Feature, Robin Shapero fot “Christina Under the Influence” and editor, Cydney Weiner and Sarah Fischel for “Diversity Task Force.”

Diversity Task Force begins work

The newly-appointed 20-member Diversity Task Force includes Sophomores Denise Akumah and Kali Frampton who will meet again next month after their first meeting last Wednesday at the International House to get acquainted.

Members nominated themselves and were selected by Lab Schools Director David Magli. Lab Schools Board Members Andrew Neal, 2008 U-High graduate and Lab Schools parent, and Sonya Malunda, U of C assistant vice president and director of community affairs, are serving as co-chairpersons. Ms. Angela Park, a consultant who helps businesses with diversity issues, and Kenneth Warren, U of C, will serve as project coordinators.

“The members are as follows: Administration, U-High Principal Matt Harvat; parents: Ms. Angie Robison-Greyfield, Mr. Jim Robison, Ms. Elise Louco; Mr. Anthony Moning and Ms. Irene Bishko; faculty: Mr. Ama Aboam, Mr. Jerry Arocno, Mr. Robert Katz and Ms. Nicole Power; alumni: 1983 U-High graduate Mr. Kris Schirmacher, 1996 U-High graduate Mr. Josephine Pardo-Horning, both Lab Schools parents.”

“In general, we want everyone to feel confident that Lab can continue its tradition of being a student body that reflects society in all of its dimensions,” Mr. Neal said. “In particular, the school has always enjoyed a substantial enrollment of African American students and we need to continue to attract and retain those students.”

“When I went to Lab, there was a higher concentration of African Americans. As a result, we need to understand why it has changed.”
Against infield struggles, baseball men press on

Next up comes fierce visitors Northside Prep

By Henry Africano
Editor-in-Chief

Taking the field for the last time during the regular season, the varsity baseball team is gearing up to face Northside College Prep 4:30 p.m., Thursday at Washington Park.

Struggling with weak infield defense all season, the 10-person team racked up a 2-7 Independent School League record (4-9 overall) as of Midway deadline. Despite their inconsistency making plays, the Maroons feel prepared for Thursday’s game, according to Catcher Mari Topel, the team’s only senior.

“We know we can beat Northside College Prep,” Mari said. “We have the skill, we just can’t fall apart. We’ve been working our infield players a lot in practice trying to stop all of the fumbles. Our offense has been pretty strong all season long, so as long as we can stay focused and ready for the ball, we should come out with a win.”

Despite the team’s fierce bat power, countless errors became too much to compensate for against Latin, May 7, according to Starting Pitcher Mike Casey, sophomore. The game was called after five innings, but not before the Romans batted through their lineup twice, scoring 14 runs off of errors in the bottom of the second inning.

“They scored 14 runs in the second inning off of the errors,” Mike said. “There were nearly eight errors in that inning, 10 overall. The players just weren’t ready for the ball to be hit hard to them. On top of that, the grass in the outfield was pretty bad and the balls took a lot of bad hops. But, had we been prepared, we could have caught them. “The errors are an ongoing thing that we can’t seem to get past. When we don’t make errors we win. We beat ourselves.”

Other scores are as follows:

North Shore Country Day, April 24, home: Varsity lost 3-6, j.v. lost 1-2.

Morgan Park Academy, May 4, away: Varsity lost 3-18.

The Maroons managed to hold off Lake Forest Academy 8-7, May 1, because of improved defense, believes Mari.

“It’s the first time in years that we’ve beaten them,” Mari said. “We could never hold ourselves together but when we played them we executed and were able to pull off the win. We didn’t make any stupid mistakes or errors and we put the bat on the ball. Mike pitched a solid game and was consistent behind the plate and Sophomore Tim Parsons had some good catches in centerfield. Pretty much anything that was hit to him, he caught.”

Focused on the task ahead, the Maroons huddle before facing Independent School League rival Lake Forest Academy, May 1 at home. U-High championed the Caxys 8-7.

Catcher catches spotlight

Featured in an April 26 Chicago Sun-Times story and on Channel 2 and Channel 7 sports news May 3, three-year varsity baseballer Mari Topel, senior, said she feels caught off guard by the media attention on her.

“One of the umps came up to me after a game and said he was a writer for the Sun-Times,” Mari said. “He asked for my name, phone number and e-mail address so they could write a story about me. I thought there was going to be just a little blurb about me in the sports section but it ended up being a pretty big deal. They made me sound a lot less girly than I really am.”

The only girl on one of Illinois’ 665 varsity baseball teams, Mari will play softball this summer for her suburban team the Homer Hawks and in college at the University of Rochester in New York City.

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Injuries can’t stop soccer girls headed to the top ranks

By Leyla Tatargil
Midway reporter

Four varsity players sitting on the bench look on, captivated as Freshman Gabby Clark sprints out before the opponents’ goal. She lands the ball into the bottom left corner of the net, her third goal April 28 against Grayslake North. Gabby is among four 9th graders brought up from j.v. by Varsity Assistant Coach Carlos Acosta early in the season. The others are Amelia Acosta, Aoife McMahon and Amy Solomon.

Varsity starts the State Tournament today, playing in a Regional Semifinal 4:30 p.m. on Jackman Field against Bogan High School. With a 7-0 record, the Maroons stand undefeated in the Independent School League as of last week and boasted a 12-3 overall record despite the team’s battle with injuries forcing other players to take starting roles.

“We’ve had a great year,” said Senior Ally Brudney varsity co-captain along with Allison Feder, Junior, Natalie Lewis and Erica Zagaja, seniors. “Injuries have hurt our game, though. It’s been especially hard losing Erica Zagaja, since we haven’t trained anyone else for her position.”

The team has dealt with the loss of Erica by having her younger sister Sophomore Ciara take her spot on the field. “Her sister’s been really good, though, about coming in and replacing her. You know, using substitutions isn’t the end of the world and we’ve still been playing very well, but it’d be nice to have a full team again.”

Standout performances from the freshmen players have contributed greatly to the Maroons’ success, Ally added. “It’s also been so impressive this year with girls like Gabby and Amy,” she continued. “They were taken from j.v. in the beginning of the year and just play really well. “They participate in the team like any other player and just really aren’t intimidated at all by the age differences. Like Aoife, she did that amazing goal against Latin.”

U-High faced Latin, a long-running rival, April 25 in a match without goals for most of its 80 minutes. Just as the game seemed it would end in a tie, Aoife scored a header into the opponents’ goal during the last minutes of the second half. The goal landed the Maroons their first victory against Latin since 2000.

Those injuries really dimmed our victory,” Varsity Coach Mike Moses said. “But that was still the game where we beat Latin, so there were a lot of mixed feelings. “We definitely didn’t celebrate that game or anything like that. We really celebrate any victories, actually.”

We like to take a business-like approach to the game and because there are already so many games left in the ISL. I guess we can save that for the finals.”

With 13 players, j.v. has played with as few as nine and sometimes borrows players from varsity. Four of 15 games have been cancelled or postponed because of weather or a lack of players as of last week.

“I mean, the games are great learning experiences and great fun, but it’s during practice that they grow as a team and really learn how to get better.”

Other scores are as follows:

Lake Park Tournament, April 21, away: Varsity lost 3-1 to Lake Park;
April 25, away: Varsity won 6-0 against Grayslake North;
Latin, April 25, away: Varsity won 5-0;
Morgan Park Academy, April 26, away: Varsity won 5-0;
Woodlands, May 3, home: Varsity won 6-0;
Willows Academy, May 4, home: Varsity won 9-0;
Timothy Christian, May 8, away: Varsity won 5-2;
Francis Parker, May 10, home: game was played after Midway deadline;
Lincoln Park, May 11, home: game was played after Midway deadline.

- Lucy O’Keefe, junior

Confidently charging past a Willows Academy defender during a May 4 game, J.V. Midfielder Lauline Gough, sophomore, tries to control the ball before she attempts a pass. U-High won 3-0.

Coach Stroud focuses on taking positives away from not being able to play almost a third of their games. “In a way, because so many games have been cancelled, it has given the team a chance to prepare better for our next games to come,” Coach Stroud added.

“I mean, the games are great learning experiences and great fun, but it’s during practice that they grow as a team and really learn how to get better.”

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Lincoln Park, May 11, home: game was played after Midway deadline.

"Even though we've had a lot of injuries, I think we're still the best team ever!"

-Lucy O’Keefe, junior
sports 11

Is winning carrying too great a price?

WITH THE GREAT AMERICAN PASTIME a month into its season, one of the truths seems unavoidable. Whether it happens in the next month, two months or in September, Barry Bonds is going to break the most sacred record in baseball history. Hank Aaron's home run record.

The current record has stood at 755 home runs for the past 31 years by Aaron, whose feat was especially remarkable given the racial discrimination he overcame in the process. ESPN's have even made a slideshow of Bonds' progress, but the show has yet to put the story out in the open and for good reason.

For a player who could have very well taken performance enhancing drugs to stand on the brink of baseball history calls into question everything he stands for as a person.

When Barry Bonds entered the big leagues with the Pittsburg Pirates 21 years ago, he weighed 185 pounds. The once visibly thin player, known more for his speed than bat power, now stands at an alarming 228 pounds.

And so with every season Bonds' hits and the field's freshly cut grass as we enter the stadiums we equate with cathedrals and temples. We love the tradition of the game, the fact that no matter what else is going on in the world, it never changes on you. And, now all that we love is in jeopardy.

What is the desire to win that extent to which players will go for victory has changed. And for the worse. For above all else, Barry Bonds epitomizes the modern day athlete. Win at all costs.

Perhaps the question ball fans should be asking themselves is: where is the price of victory when bonds has become too high.

The fates are uncharitable. Through Bonds has put to at least some players, of his faith, he has put the most into the game and every season. We lost the smell of newly made hot dogs and the field's freshly cut grass as we enter the stadiums we equate with cathedrals and temples. We love the tradition of the game, the fact that no matter what else is going on in the world, it never changes on you. And, now all that we love is in jeopardy.

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If you give Junior Hillary Gimpel a bike helmet...

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