Famed Scientist
to address newest
gads for Graduation

By Dana Alfassa
Associate editor

In 1940 at the age of 15 Janet Rowley, then Janet Davison, left her home in
New Jersey to come to the University of
Chicago for a U-High program that
allowed her to finish her last two years of
high school and first two years of college.
She later became a U. of C. graduate with
a philosophy degree, then went on to earn a
B.S. and an M.D. from the Princeton School
of Medicine.
A U. of C. faculty member and former Lab
Schools parent, the 83-year-old scientist,
celebrated for her work on translocation,
will address the 111-member Class of 2007
at Commencement 2:30 p.m., Thursday,
June 7 at Rockefeller Chapel, 59th Street
and Woodlawn Avenue.
The Senior Steering Committee chose Dr.
Rowley as Commencement speaker.

"I'd seen a picture of Janet Rowley in
the High School Lobby among famous alumni," Senior President Rebecca Remick
said. "When you've made it onto that wall, you
know you're big. Mr. McFarlane suggested
her name as well. Dr. Rowley has conducted
really important research about leukemia
and she's a 1942 U-High graduate. She's a
woman who's so accomplished in science
and that makes her a really meaningful
choice. We really wanted a Lab grad, so that
also made her an obvious choice."
Student speakers Liz Parsons and
Rebecca were selected by the Steering
Committee.

Musical performances will be given by
Chicago Children's Choir members Beatrice
Meadow, Nick Feder, Anne Wildman
and Natalie Lewis who will sing Ysaye
Barnwell's "Wanting Memories," and a
violin performance by Andrew Suyaga
and Mara MacMahon on piano.

University Organist Thomas Westling
will play processional and recessional music
on the Rockefeller Chapel organ. Seniors,
in traditional maroon cap and gowns,
will enter to Edward Elgar's "Pomp and
Circumstance." Lab Schools Board members,
administrators and faculty members wearing
robes and collars with colors signifying their
college degrees, will follow. Seniors will
receive their diplomas from Principal Mart
Harrington.

Lab Schools Director David Magill and
Lab Schools Board Chairman David Strauss
will greet the graduates, whose names will
be read by their college counselors. Mr. Will

On the inside
Where seniors are headed for college
Where U-Highers are headed this summer
Sox girls set season to historic heights

Dix and Mrs. Patty Kovacs.
The senior class will present seven honorary
diplomas being awarded the first time at the
ceremony.

For the class gift, 27 families contributed
to an endowment. The Alumni Development
Office plans to continue the project led by Mr.
Bob Parsons, father of Liz and Sophomore
Tim, for the next 10 years, with each senior
class contributing money. The money will go
to a scholarship for an incoming freshman in
the name of the class of 2007.

Thursday won't mark Dr. Rowley's first
U-High graduation. Raising four sons, Dr.
Rowley also watched U-High graduates
Donald '69 and Roger '81 receive their diplomas.
To devote time to her family,
Dr. Rowley worked part time for 24 years
until she returned to the U. of C. in 1968,
ultimately becoming a full time professor
in 1977.
The current Blum Riese Distinguished
Service Professor of Biology at the U. of
C., Dr. Rowley has served as the U. of C.
interim deputy dean of science since 2001.
In 1998 she was awarded the National
Medal of Science and the Lasker award for
her work on translocation. Selected to serve
on President Bush's Council on Bioethics
in 2002, Dr. Rowley has published over 400
articles.

A reception sponsored by junior parents will
follow Commencement at the Quadrangle
Club, 1155 East 57 Street. The day before
graduation, a Senior Luncheon at 11 a.m.
in Judd 126 will precede a rehearsal.

The graduation ceremony will climax year-
ed events including Alumni Weekend, with
12 classes returning. They include '42, '52,
'57, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97 and '02.
Today's events kicked off with an Alumni
Luncheon, where Chicago Public Schools
CEO Arne Duncan, '82 graduate, received the
Distinguished Alumni Award 11:30
a.m., in Kovler Gym.
Alumni can enjoy a buffet and smooth
songs by graduates and the U-High Jazz
Band at an Alumni Jazz Brunch 11:30 a.m.,
tomorrow in Scannons Garden.

Coordinated by Homer Shew, Nathan
Worchester and Steven Xu, all juniors, the
annual Labstock will showcase musical
talents from nine U-High bands, 3 p.m.
today in Kenwood Mall. Student Council is
sponsoring a barbecue for the event.

Tommorow, the Hyde Park Community Art
Fair begins along 57th Street.
The annual Awards Assembly 9-11 a.m.,
Monday, June 4 in Max Palevsky Theatre will
precede finals Tuesday and Wednesday.
After finals conclude, 48 freshmen and five chaperons
will depart for Great America
12:30 p.m.

Entering the dance, Promgoers voted for King
and Queen. Beanie Meadow and Louis Baggetto,
who had reigned as Formal royalty, won again.

Among 130 Promgoers few partici-
pated in the traditional garter cer-
emony. Elan Weiner and Mike Mc-
Carthy placed Amanda Pappas' and
Sarah Fischel's garters on their heads
as Robin Shapiro enjoys the fun.

In a chic pink dress at last Friday's
Prom in the Beaux Arts Ballroom at
the Chicago Cultural Center, Jacqui
Chaudhry dances to "Walk It Out"
with her date, Matt Jackson from
Notre Dame High School.

Vases of white Call Lillies decked
a buffet table with cuisine catered
by Greg Christianson. Elan Weiner,
Amanda Pappas, Robin Shapiro and
Evan Dorfman munch on chicken
tenders, pizza and shrimp.

Rose petals and a glass fishbowl with floating
candies create an elegant dining setting for Si-
on Bean and Emily Scheidt from the U. of I.

Amid an evening of colorful fashions, Allie Brud-
ney admires Liz Parsons' pink rose corsage ac-
cented with white ribbon.
**Eastern schools get highest number of ’07 grads**

By Kyle Brunke

Midway reporter

Northeastern schools, 27 of them, have attracted the highest number of 2007 U-High graduates, 51.

With six U-Highers each, Princeton and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will get the most U-Highers next fall followed by, with five, the University of Chicago. By region, seniors will attend universities as follows: Midwest, 40; West, 10; South, four; Canada, two; and Japan, one.

Senior Elizabeth Lin decided to remain close to her neighborhood and family, enrolling at the U. of C.

"Sure, so I've spent my entire life at Lab," Elizabeth said. "That doesn't mean I'm timid or afraid to undertake something new. My family and friends are very personal to me and I've grown accustomed to the Lab feeling. "I'll leave and start something new soon enough, but not right now. I have my whole wild life ahead of me. If its worked for me so far, why try to break the mold?"

With government institutions surrounding his university campus, Senior Donavan Mitchem hopes to engage in the political aura of George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

"They have a very reputable foreign relations program and they specialize in international diplomacy," Donavan said. "I'm interested in that specific kind of field and the political environment of George Washington; you think of all the limitless possibilities that can happen."

Seniors plan to attend colleges as follows: American, Washington, D.C.; Bard, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York; Bowdoin, Brunswick, Maine; Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania; Brown, Providence, Rhode Island; Carleton, Northfield, Minnesota; Colorado, Boulder; Columbia, New York City; Dartmouth, Hanover, New Hampshire; Emory, Atlanta, Georgia; George Washington, D.C.; Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta; Georgetown, Washington, D.C.; Harvard, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Indiana, Bloomington; Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland; Loyola Marymount, Los Angeles; McGill, Montreal, Canada; Middlebury, Vermont; Northwestern, Evanston, Illinois; Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana; Princeton, New Jersey; Purdue, West Lafayette, Indiana; Rice, Houston, Texas; Stanford, California; Tufts, Medford, Massachusetts; U.C. Berkeley, California; U.C. Davis, California; U.C. Santa Barbara, California; U.C. San Diego, California; University of Chicago, Illinois; University of Georgia, Athens; Yale, New Haven, Connecticut; Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China; Zhejiang University, Shanghai, China.

"I chose Elmhurst because of the good music program and it's also a small school," Andrew Kern, senior.

"I'm really glad I ended up here. The original score added even more sparkle to a witty script and animated performances. I'm happy for the young graduates to get some great grandparents, the audience seemed captivated start to finish.

From left are: Isaac Burgess, Alexandra Coleman, Sage Mohoney, Tyke Alexandre, Giuseppe Zingales, Jean Poumar, Katelyn Chang, James Kral, Vinita Rajagopalan.

**But Midwestern schools add up, too**

Guilin, yes, but not grim at all

Drawing smiling and laughing crowds for three nights, the Spring Production May 17-19 paraded fast-moving stagings of Grim's fairy tales with color and motion. The original score added even more sparkle to a witty script and animated performances. I'm happy for the young graduates to get some great grandparents, the audience seemed captivated start to finish.

Try on us.

Most students are looking for a school that's the right "fit..."
Travels, new experiences top student, faculty summer plans

By Amanda Pappas
Associate Editor

Learning about African history at a university in the morning and visiting public schools in the afternoon for activities with children, Sophomore Emily Bierzek will venture to Cape Town in South Africa with the Global Leadership Adventures program for three weeks this summer.

"I, along with around 60 other kids from around the world will be doing the program, right outside of Cape Town," Emily said. "In order to get accepted into the program I had to go through an application process and also had a phone interview by the program director.

"During our morning sessions, guest speakers, like people who worked with Nelson Mandela, will lecture us about African culture and history. Although the program is heavily based on education, we will also be working on service projects mainly focusing on getting to know the South African people in the community. I really hope to get a better understanding about the culture of Africa."

While some U-Highers will travel to exotic locations including, besides South Africa, Poland, Israel, India and France to study abroad, do community service, or vacation, others will remain in Chicago. Junior Daniel Hoerning, who volunteered for Barack Obama’s Senatorial campaign in 2004, was elected Illinois high school director by a selection committee for Obama’s Presidential campaign.

Communicating with high school students by phone and by Facebook, the online networking site, Daniel said he hopes to raise the vote of 18- to 26-year-olds during the Presidential election.

"I will be working in the office with mainly college and graduate students," Daniel explained. "I submitted an application to Barack’s selection committee and called consistently for a while. I have volunteered a lot for Barack, so I think appointing me to the job was sort of a reward, even though I will not be getting paid.

"The initiative is to get out the vote in early states like Iowa. The rest of the time I will just be in the office working 40 to 50 hours a week, or right to 10 hour days. It’s more than school but I will spend most of the time talking to kids across the country, so it’s not like sitting in history class."

Chaperoned by Photography Teacher Linee Rickets and Art Teacher Brian Wildeman, 11 photography students, including ’06 graduate Michael Bump, will travel to Sicily, to work with internationally recognized, Italian born documentary photographer Ernesto Basini.

Also going abroad, Junior Katherine Vokes plans to volunteer in Costa Rica with the nonprofit organization AMIGOS.

"After researching different programs, AMIGOS seemed like the program which I would get the most out of," Katherine said. "I will mainly be volunteering in small rural towns of Costa Rica working with kids, teenagers and adults. I will be teaching the kids about basic hygiene like how to brush teeth and comb hair.

"With the teenagers and adults, I will be helping them figure out what sort of project they would want to do to improve their community. After the first three days of my arrival, I will be paired with someone else from the program to live with in a host family."

Also volunteering through AMIGOS, Junior Claire Beavan will travel to rural Lempira Honduras for six weeks.

"I will be leading workshops and activities with kids that will hopefully help them later in life," Claire said. "The activities will be very similar to what we have done in retreats, like learning to work as a team by playing games together.

"I will also be teaching the kids about physical education, mostly how to keep fit and eat the right foods to be healthy."

Among many U-Highers working at summer camps, Sophomore Pat Philptaire will be returning as a counselor at Adventure Kids, the Lab Schools camp.

"We go on field trips two out of the five days of the week," Pat said. "The theme last year was 'Under the Sea' so we went to a lot of water parks, museums and the Shedd Aquarium.

"This summer, the theme will be 'Summer of Sound' and I can't wait! I feel like a big kid myself so working there makes me feel right at home. I get along great with the kids, which makes it that much better.
Renaissance to offer collage of creativity in square-shaped issue

Collaged images as backgrounds for some pages will provide a new look for this year's Renaissance art, literary and music magazine, according to the editors. In a similar format of 13 by 13 inches, the issue will be distributed next fall. Class of 2007 members will be sent letters detailing how to get their books.

"For the collage we pulled images from the internet and graphics as a background for the submitted text and art," explained Senior Noah Breslin, editor-in-chief with Senior Katherine Landerdale.

"This year's submissions were limited to a few hundred and from that we're picking about 10 percent. We'll have a lot of interesting sculptures but not as much painting as other years. We might try a DVD, we're not sure, but Victoria Rogers (a senior editor) is doing a video making the Rites of May play and we might use that.

In his eighth and final year as Renaissance adviser, Art Teacher Brian Wideman said the magazine will be "a little smaller in pages." Estimates range from 50 to 70 pages. About 25 piece of art are expected to be included, 10 to 15 photos; 15 pieces of literature; and six poems, but all figures are just estimates at this time. About 50 students contributed to the issue.

In previous years the magazine has included a C.D. with student music performances and sometimes spoken word pieces but Mr. Wideman said whether a C.D. would be included this year is still not determined. The assistant adviser, Lowe School Teacher David Kaleta, will succeed Mr. Wideman as adviser next year.

The magazine's literary adviser is Middle School Teacher Vicki Schonese.

Other editors, according to a list given to the Midway, are as follows:

**Senior Editors**
- Tom Benner, Nick Mittlesteadt, Nathan Woroszala, Pilar Lopez, Jesse Vanyo, Dylan Best, Guin Mittlesteadt

**Editors**
- Alex Frye, Karly Kennedy, Ben Woroszala, Scott Grade, Nick Ettlie, Solvan Hygrent, Chelsea Smettens, fruit Pak, Dorrin Wilhams, Homer Snow, Rob Weber.

Midway editor-in-chief makes All-State Journalism Team

Senior Jeremy Lacoque will be among 10 high school journalists in the state honored at luncheon Saturday, June 9 in Springfield as members of the Illinois Journalism Education Association All-State Journalism Team.

Jeremy has the distinction of being the son of a faculty member, Middle School Counselor Michel Lacoque; the grandson of a faculty member, retired French teacher Claire Lacoque; and the brother of a Midway editor-in-chief and national best story award winner, Rebecca Lacoque, Class of 1994.

Jeremy was selected on the basis of an application essay and portfolio of his work; for his leadership as both an editor-in-chief and in-depth newshunter editor; his role in bringing more graphics to Midway design; and his recommendation from Journalism Teacher Wayne Brazer, who praised his sense of ethics as a journalist.

Jeremy's father and his mother, Jeanine, will be guests at the luncheon in Springfield too.

The Journalism Team was started two years ago. Two Class of 2005 Midway editors, Danielle Goldman and Joseph Bernardoni, were selected then.

Another editor, John Kuo, received honors in the Illinois High School Journalist of the Year program. No candidate was entered last year in either program. Mr. Brasler said, because "we were so pressured with Midway and U-Highlights deadlines we couldn't meet the award application deadlines. When it's deadline time for the publications the last thing the staff is thinking about is awards. Many times many years our newspaper and yearbook miss out in competing in many contests. That's the story in busy publications programs at many schools."

Midway wins press association top honor

The Silver Pen, the Illinois Woman's Press Association's award for overall excellence in its annual high school journalism contest, was presented to the Midway at a luncheon May 19 at the Union League Club. The presentation was made by Ms. Linda Heaxon, contest chairperson. Awards also were presented to Midway staff members for individual achievement. From left are Journalism Teacher Wayne Brazer (Midway adviser with Photojournalism Teacher Lise Ricketts), Cyndey Weiner, Alya Forster, Mona Daugpata, David McAlpine, Robin Shapiro and Eric Crockman.

Each recipient was presented with an award certificate and then asked to say a few words on their winning entry. The Midway won the Silver Pen when it was first awarded four years ago and is the first paper to win the award twice.

All-color yearbook to introduce palette of other innovations, too

When U-Highers receive the first all-color U-Highlights in the school's history, they will see a yearbook that looks different from any other previously produced here.

Color is just part of the surprises. The book's design and organization will look new, too.

"Going full color allowed us the freedom to sequence the book in a different way," explained Junior Lwen Xua, the editor-in-chief with Senior Matthew Hernandez.

"We combined the Life and Organizations sections into an expanded new section which covers the year chronologically. But actually every section of the book will reflect new ideas."

Design Editor Ben Picker, junior, put previous publications design experience to work in producing a yearbook which dramatically departs from previous volumes in appearance.

"We focused on melding words and photography design, story," Ben said. "We've integrated a variety of graphics and photo effects into our layouts for vivacity. Sometimes we've included silhouettes or outlines to express action and drama."

Senior Rachel Hanestian hooded up a corps of photographers advised by Photojournalism Teacher Lise Ricketts who shot thousands of photos for the book, with Rachel selecting which would be published with the editors-in-chief.

Led by Business and Ad Manager Rupei Tang, the staff sold a record $4,900 in ads to finance a 192-page book. Higher ad prices for color figured into the record sales amount.

"For the first time in at least 20 years the yearbook will be finished on time, by July 1," Michael said, "and we're thinking of a yearbook hand-out party for the first day of school if the book is delivered by then."

Other editors are as follows:

**Photography**—Sports (Von Jaeger; sports team photos: Steven, Jones); Life and Organizations (Rachel Hanestian; Leading: Lwen Xua; Sports: B.J. Aron and Forrest Hoppewitz); People: Sheena Anand; Community: Rupei Tang.

The student advisor is Louis Baggetto.
Dill or no Dill?

It's lunchtime, and junior Sydney Marcus is having trouble deciding what to put on her sandwich.

With the sandwich complete, Sydney must now answer the important question...Dill or no Dill?

This time Sydney chooses no dill, but she can still enjoy the wide variety of sandwich toppings to go along with University Market's wide selection of snacks, treats and groceries.

University Market
1323 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
(773)363-0070

Open Monday - Friday
8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

Happy vacation, U-High! Remember, we're here all summer for you!
Some people are irreplacable

One is known for her sophisticated teaching style, another for teaching a classic piece of literature. One is known for being thoughtful and insightful, while another is known by most U-Highers for his friendly face and big bowl of candy in his office. And yet another is known for his infamous, last-minute papers and intimidating mock debates. But collectively, Ms. Diane Pukin, Mr. Hal Hoffen

All photos by Liwen Xu

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bell

No debate about it

By Mona Dangupta

Asst. editor

Huddled inside U-High 104, a group of A.P. American History students begin talking minutely.

One whisper softly, "Has anyone started the paper?"

Before anyone can answer, the group bursts a familiar favorite mimicry, yet cheerful. Southern accent approaching from the hall. Everyone barely reaches a foot shorter. A small coffee table rests behind a wooden desk, with his navy suspenders hidden by a red tie. The back of his chair resting on the bridge of his nose. "Start talking," he says, "an intimidating manner of fact. Stems preserve the now."

This year, A.P. American History and A.P. World History teacher Earl Bell, known for assigning the dreaded paper "which has transformed the bell" will be retiring after four decades at U-High. A dominant, respected figure and leader at U-High, Mr. Bell came to the Lab School in 1967 after four years of teaching American History at Kecoughtan High School in Hampton, Virginia. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Bell is 6'2" tall, 1,000 pounds. Mr. Bell, Ms. Bell and brought a Southern inflection to a Northern school.

Mr. Bell has taught World History, Geography, World History and English. He also coached the debate Model U.N. as well as the first girl's tennis team. Mr. Bell served as Faculty Association president from 1975 to 1979, chairman of the High School faculty, and sponsored black students' club, Crossmen Brothers and Sisters, in 1963.

"This year was really tough for me, I thought I would

Not retiring, but moving on to new quests.

By Nathan Bishop

Midway reporter

Going to graduate school, continuing to rebuild after hurricane Katrina, focusing on family and starting a new one are plans for teachers leaving U-High after this year. Here since 2004, Community Learning Coordinator Maureen Gamsarer is relocating to Ohio with her fiancé, Facebook employee Scott. As English, Ira Nirenberg, physics, and George Peruzzi Dyer, assistant for the Digital Language Lab, will depart from U-High after one year.

"I am going to be moving to Kent, Ohio, where I will be looking for work that is related to what I am doing now," Ms. Gamsarer said. "The reason why I am moving to Kent is because I am going to be getting married there and my fiancé and the rest of my family already live there. I grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, which is about 45 minutes away from Kent, so it's like I will be moving back home."

"One of the things I've loved about this job every has been working with students," Ms. Gamsarer said. "I've witnessed the study of the history like a backseat to the No Child Left Behind Act and other educational policies by the Bush administration. We, as a nation, can't afford for this to happen, as the ability an individual to question and critically examine issues comes largely from the skills they gain in history classes, such as critical thinking, and appreciating the role of the past in the present."

In completing her plan, Ms. Gamsarer expects some relaxation in the coming years, namely in spending time with her family.

"Of course, there are my grandchildren," Ms. Gamsarer said. "I have two daughters, both born two from another in the Upper West Side of New York, each of them with two children. I certainly plan on spending a lot of time with them. I am, after all, a grandmother first."

Mr. Bob Bachand

Spread sweetness in more ways than one

By Anna Katia Zbikowski

Associate editor

Relaxed in a black leather swivel chair, Professor Bob Bachand exhibits his office surrounded by books filled with pictures and memories of former students. In his 11 years here at U-High, Mr. Bachand has seen many changes in the U-High community, but for one the changes has never slowed. Growing up in St. Anne, Illinois, Mr. Bachand earned his bachelor degree in English literature from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and later returned to Southern Illinois University for his master's in counseling. After working as a counselor at Princeton High School for 24 years, Mr. Bachand was ready to retire in 1996. That was before he got a call from former U-High College Counselor Bill Tracy asking if he could fill in for a year. On a visit to U-High, Mr. Bachand received the welcoming atmosphere of the school and the friendly interactions between students.

"There were kids sitting in front of their lockers doing work; there was so much diversity between the faces and I heard many conversations about academic classes," he said. "The students seemed very academically oriented which was very different from the school where I had previously worked."

For the next three years, Mr. Bachand worked as a school counselor. He became known for the hurdles of U-Higher cramming both in the Guidance and Counseling Office to talk or get a piece of candy. However, after talking to many new students, Mr. Bachand, two years ago, made an own part time position as a counselor for new students.

Enrolled in the U-High community, Mr. Bachand sponsored the Asian Students' Association and the Women's Issues Club and served on the All School Screening Committee, the Admission board and as chairman of the High School Faculty. In recognition of his contributions, he received the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Teachers Association in 2003.

After retirement, Mr. Bachand looks forward to relaxing and catching up with friends and family.
Bell papers rang the bell for loyal ideals
till I dropped it," Mr. Bell said of deciding in April to retire. "I went through different stages, changing my mind about it. This definitely wasn't an easy decision but I feel it's time to retire and live a little differently." For many years, Bell enjoyed his life traveling plans, Mr. Bell intends to head south, especially in the warm weather, to his home in the sun. He enjoys sailing, reading and golfing.

I love the California and the Oregon of the coast," Mr. Bell said. "But I enjoy spending time in Fine Knoll Streets and my home in New York. I think it's an excellent place to be. I love to plant flowers, which I'll do a lot of. I'm going to do a lot of that here because of the cold."

With his ancestral among the first settlers of North Carolina, Mr. Bell says his family history and love for American History greatly influenced his decision to begin his retirement.

"I graduated high school in a city of 26 people and then we headed north to college. I went to the University of Illinois, both Mr. Bell and his infamous emblem are retiring. After receiving his degree in economics and government from the University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in math, Mr. Bell has not been a stranger to academia. He is a Master of Arts in Teaching Math degree. As part of the nationally famous program, she taught at U-High and has remained here since, taking one year off in 1971 to travel to Europe with Richard Holten. Her children, Daniel and April, are both U-High graduates. Mr. Bell was a University of Illinois alumnus. Along with being a master in Advanced Algebra, Pre-Calculus and A.P. Calculus BC.

Always giving words carefully thought before she spoke, Mr. Bell says she may primary among the faculty, the Math Department in particular," she explained. "It was full of dynamic people creating their own curriculum, which I would never have a chance to do on my own."

As just she shared her own curriculum in the programming course, Mr. Bell also helped shape the U-High curriculum and participate in the community initiatives, serving as May Project head and faculty chairperson and actively participating in multiple community alliances, including the current steering committee of the All School Council. "I think the question is, is there any committee I haven't been on?" Mr. Bell joked. "I find that they are very important because they help shape the student experience directly and they also affect the school. Teachers have the greatest investment in the school, because they are in it longer than any other stakeholder."

Aside from the committees, Mr. Bell said that hearing from students after their graduation also brings fulfillment.

"There are some students where there may have been a student whom I felt bad about, or who misbehaved in class or didn't do well," she explained. "On occasion, I will bump into one of those students or they'll come to me and tell me that something has changed. Maybe they've grown to love math, or they just are able to look back on things with a different perspective. That's always very nice. Also, sometimes I see somebody understand or come to like something they mishandled in the past and that's really what teachers live for.

Despite enjoying her students, Mr. Bell said the books forward to being free of her teaching schedule. "After retiring, I just want to do things that I enjoy but I haven't had enough time and energy to do," she said. "It sounds boring, but it's me to teaching makes it impossible to have sustained involvement with other things. Playing piano, for example, reading or traveling was not something I was interested in but hasn't been able to do enough. Even being a good friend is hard because teaching consume your life, I'd like to rebuild some friendships."

But immediately after I retire, I'm just going to see what it feels like to be a free of a schedule and have time to myself. I'm going to respect that after me.

Mr. Bell said the state of his retirement plans are as follows:

- Going to spend four to five months at my condo in Miami Beach in the winter because he doesn't have to worry about it. I'm hoping to be able to swim at least five days a week. I also want to spend time with my family. I've enjoyed my grandchildren and my new grandson, who was born last December."

- Going to spend five to six months up north. I do not have to worry about anything, I can just kick back and relax.

- Going to get more involved with my church and my community. I was looking to get involved with some local charities and the arts. I plan to volunteer at local parks and community centers.

- Going to spend time with my wife and family in the state. We plan to visit my parents in California and my in-laws in Texas."

- Going to spend some time traveling. My wife and I have been to Europe several times, and we plan to visit some of the places we didn't get to see on our previous trips.

- Going to spend time with my friends. I have a great group of friends who I enjoy spending time with.

- Going to spend some time on my hobbies. I am a big fan of reading and playing golf. I plan to spend some time on these hobbies.

- Going to spend some time on my personal projects. I have a few ideas I want to work on, and I plan to spend some time on these.

- Going to spend some time on my health. I want to make sure I am healthy and active, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my memory. I want to make sure I remember everything, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my budget. I want to make sure I have enough money to live comfortably, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my goals. I have a few goals I want to achieve, and I plan to spend some time on these.

- Going to spend some time on my future. I want to plan for what is to come, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my past. I want to remember the good times, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my family. I love my family and want to spend as much time with them as possible, and I plan to spend some time on this.

- Going to spend some time on my community. I want to give back to the community, and I plan to spend some time on this.
The year at U-High as seen by Midtown cartoonist Eric Cochran

IT WAS FUN! IT WAS FUN! GO TEAM!

SCHOOL YEAR 2006-2007

As the Midway sees it

Adding up a year of successes for U-High

The Bulls may have blown their plays on the court twice, but the U-High community executed and showcased its skills all year.

From Artfest to Student Council's Spirit Week, the Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly to the Holocaust Assembly, school events carried out with flair drew bigger crowds of U-Highers than in previous years. But perhaps Spirit Week in October aroused the most pep and interest, which turned all four floors of U-High different colors representing different grades. The juniors blanketed the cafeteria in so much green paper and plastic decorations, in fact, that Dean of Students Larry McFarlane forced them to take down the adornments before second period began. Gainted it was a little messy, but it was, after all, Spirit Week.

With new sponsorships from Edwardo's Pizzaria, Jamba Juice and the Graduate School of Business cafeteria, Artfest attracted more students and most of them actually went to their assigned workshops too, another obstacle overcome by the Artsfest committee, setting a precedent. Not only did Artfest offer innovative and intriguing workshops, but both the opening Comedy/Sports assembly and Senior Maxcel Babka's closing magic assembly got the U-High audience involved and excited about the day.

Similarly, U-Highers attended two exceptionally organized and thought out assemblies dedicated to Martin Luther King Jr. and the Holocaust. The Black Student Association's success in getting State Senator Kwaame Raoul to speak at the MLK Assembly, coupled with powerful musical performances and student drama pieces, created a solemn and memorable gathering, and though a smaller portion of U-Highers showed up than usual, most who did felt it was captivating and a solid tribute.

Three months later, a large number of students and faculty attended the Holocaust Assembly. With a slide program showing the camps and their prisoners and what they endured, moving speeches, the Jewish Students' Association garnered respect to get more U-Highers' attention.

And even though the Bulls may have lost, U-High's sports teams were on target. Individual records in both track and field and swimming were shattered, not to mention the girls' soccer team now holds the largest number of wins of any U-High team in a single season.

But among these events and the frenzy and chaos of the school year, sometimes behind the scenes, Principal Matt Horvat made his mark by being actively involved. Mr. Horvat has been a welcoming addition to the U-High community, proving an inviting and open leader. He not only knows many U-Highers by first name, but since September has mentored a youthful and regenerated tone for the school.

And some things are still in progress: the Diversity Initiative, scheduling and PowerSchool, to name a few. The wheels are turning slowly, but still turning.

The latest Diversity Initiative in its progress, or lack thereof, caught exceptional attention from the community throughout the year. After countless meetings, a diversity study by a hired professional, a report and an executive summary, the Initiative so far has resulted in but another committee, the Diversity Task Force. Many have grown impatient over the lack of activity, but maybe this committee will change the pattern.

With today's Labstock concluding the year's student-sponsored events, U-Highers' expectations are high. All year, students have been exposed to incredible exhibitions of arts, music, humanities, sciences, sports, community and spirit. Add in a fresh and well-liked principal and a standard that has been established that will be tough to outshine in future years. It seems safe to say that U-Highers this year, definitely brought their "A" game.

10-second editorials

Often smiling or adding extra whipped cream to a drink, Medici Bakery employee Charles Carpenter died May 21 when an unidentified man on a bicycle shot him while he was with another person on East 79th Street. To many U-Highers, Charles was a source of a good laugh and part of daily life. Contributions to a fund set up for Charles' four children can be made at the Bakery.

Gathering all U-Highers at break in the cafeteria May 23, Principal Matt Horvat quoted a passage addressing harassment from the U-High Handbook. He then alluded to recent harassment at school but didn't go into detail. Some said afterward they didn't understand the reason for the assembly but Mr. Horvat made it clear he didn't take the initiative, something that hasn't always been done in the past.

If you were given a chance this summer to inter at the job of your dreams or vacation at a destination of your choice, which would you choose, where would you go and why?

ANDREW SUGAYA, SEALER: I would totally go on a vacation and visit the Greek Islands because I have enough money and then invite all of my friends. Although I've never been to them, I know I would have fun because I've heard they have the best climate and it would probably be a break from life.

MELISSA GRACIA, JANITOR: I would inter at a prominent law firm because I would eventually be able to pay for the vacation of my dreams, which is to spend a couple of months in Venice. While on vacation, I would have fun shopping and resting on the many beaches of Venice and I would feel satisfied knowing that I worked hard for a long summer.

MYLES WOERNER, SOPHOMORE: I would probably inter at a law firm because it would allow me to present myself as a good candidate for college. While working, it might be a bit stressful but it would be a good experience and since I am involved in sports, I would not be able to leave Chicago in order to vacation anyway.

KEIRI KENNEDY, FRESHMAN: I would probably inter at one of the U.S. embassies in Africa or in France so I could vacation and work. It would be a wonderful experience because I would get to work for our government and sort of experience life in another country. This would be the best of both worlds!
Say what you mean, but there may be a price

FREEDOM OF SPEECH.
It seems the First Amendment is evolving. Just consider the Woodland Janitor-Junior High journalism teacher from Indiana, chastised for an opinion column appearing in the student newspaper claiming homophobia is a punishable offense.

Or contemplate the unfortunate case of an honors student at Cary-Grove High School in the Northwest suburbs who was arrested for writing an English essay. In such cases, freedom of speech now seems like a luxury of the past.

After the student’s opinion column claiming homosexuals deserve less respect appeared, she was arrested for violating an English essay. In eight years Amy Sorrell received a written reprimand and a neglect of duty and negligence.

Ms. Sorrell had agreed to consult the principal about issues that he expected to be published in the paper. But Ms. Sorrell later explained she didn’t believe the column would prove controversial. In fact, no one in the school or community complained except for administrators.

Ms. Sorrell and her students contacted the Student Press Law Center, an advocacy group for student media, whose representatives advised them to appeal the case. But the school district told Ms. Sorrell her job would be compromised if she were to publish the column.

In April, Ms. Sorrell reached a settlement with the East Allen County (EAC) School Board, banning her from teaching journalism for three years, forcing her to make a written apology to the principal for violating the agreement, and reassigning her to Heritage Junior-Junior High School.

Superintendent Kay Novotny claimed Ms. Sorrell’s move to Heritage represented an act of “compensation.” Yet it seems Novotny also responded anything but compassionately to Ms. Sorrell.

Ms. Novotny claimed the problem with the article had no connection with homophobia but later she wrote the issue involved a fear people’s religions were being made fun of or questioned.

Then it was learned the school board had years before passed a policy statement against homosexuality and refused to drop or revise it. And, by the way, the EAC board president is a minister. Incidentally, in the same issue with the offending column appeared stories on teenage pregnancy, which the principal found “inappropriate.”

Now Ms. Sorrell has received a press freedom award from the American University Law School. And Ms. Sorrell’s students won the most awards in their district at Ball State’s J-Day for High Schoolers in April.

Another unfortunate case where freedom of speech became problematic occurred at Cary-Grove High School when 18-year-old Allen Lee, senior, an honors student, was chastised for a creative writing assignment “peppered with violent images,” one week after the Virginia Tech massacre. He was arrested April 23 while walking to school.

The teacher’s instructions included to “write whatever comes to your mind” and to “write nonstop” and “do not judge or censor.” Lee claimed he only followed the teacher’s instructions.

Lee’s essay included a dream where he explained “shooting everyone” and then “had sex with the dead person” but then continued with a scenario “not really, but it would be funny if I did.” The English teacher showed the essay to the principal who then reported Lee to the police.

Although Lee’s essay appeared shocking, the principal’s reaction showed little, if any, professionalism. The principal never spoke to Lee or his parents, or even the counselors, he went straight to the police. Lee was charged with two counts of disorderly conduct. He was to enter a guilty plea after graduation, but after his arrest he was disqualified.

Lee returned to Cary-Grove High School May 4 and charges were dropped. May 25, NCTC, the Mason Corp. says Lee may reapply.

At least University administrators passed a charter May 15 allowing the University’s Board of Trustees to appoint the student newspaper editors, rather than the university, to make decisions.

Although these shocking cases seem unique, they stand among countless other publications and students around the country restricted from writing with the freedom of speech.

The message now sent to students seems to be when students “speak fuzzy and to not ‘censor yourself,’ it’s probably they really mean not to write anything offensive. It’s evident the message schools now boldly send to today’s generation is when a school or teacher says to speak your mind, you better keep your mouth shut.

Get on some shine for stylish Summer

BRIGHT IS BACK. After a Spring flooded with sparkle and shine, color now rules the runways and store aisles.

Achieving seemingly effortless Summer style can be as simple as throwing on a fabulous royal blue or yellow frock, sleek flats and some old school shades. When the sun comes out it’s tempting to let your fashion flair wild, but stick to the basics. When in doubt, less is more. For a crisp look, try a pair of wedges or a pair of flats for stripes. When they’re on a long sleeved tee or ballet flats, stripes make anything look fresh, youthful and summery.

Remember, stripes on the top mean no pattern on the bottom. Pairing a long tank, short jacket and even sneakers can also work, too.

For the season’s new twist on urban chic, think funky prints, chunky shoes and jewelry that turns heads.

Continuing the clever use of dressing with the season’s satin sensation will provide the perfect balance of sophistication and casual comfort. Anything from satin blouses to dresses or skirts. Keep it simple. For a banana yellow sheath, simply throw on a pair of metallic or Grecian sandals.

Throw away your handbag. Flat, patent clutches and metallic totes give a modern twist to any look. Nude and wooden platforms deserve a place in our closet. Look for thin ankle strap sandals with pointy toe stiletto and platform flip flops. Remember, the shorter the shoes or dress, the flatter the heel.

With key prints and eye popping colors filling your wardrobe, don’t be afraid to experiment with cool greens, deep indigos and sky blues for your makeup. Invest in an eyelash curler and

Reflections after a first year at college

WHEN I VISITED the University of Missouri’s overnight-get-acquainted weekend I was ecstatic that at least two of their dishes were served with chipped beef on straw syrup! Breakfast, lunch and even one dinner of that weekend I was waffles. The ones I tried weren’t half bad. No matter what I tried, the waffle never came out perfectly. This frustrated me so much that when I decided one day to make some waffles at home I thought about what went wrong.

I wish I had realized that the waffle was still tasty and I could always try again. People have to remember to the waffles just Imperfections rather than its tastiness or the possibility of try again. That’s the main reason we eat at fast food is. In general, unfortunately. Some of the “this bread is for the birds” mentality is the pressure from peers and parents to do well. Some of it is the epic feel of high school.

During high school, that relationship, that starting spot on the team, that A in the super hard class, that drop position on Model U.N., that job as editor-in-chief, that lead role in the play, self-esteem, is important than anything else. Part of that attitude is helpful, it provides an otherwise unsustainable drive and passion.

Another teenager murdered will anything change?

IMAGINE a world without gang, drugs, guns and crime. In this utopia, public school classrooms would fill with young minds eager to learn, street corners would no longer provide a haven for drug dealers and 16-year-old Blair Holm, an honors student at Percy School High, would still be alive.

The day after the shooting on a Chicago Transit Authority bus, by a young black male student, the 27th Chicago Public School student killed this school year and almost all the cases remain unsolved.

But the Blair shooting differs from a lot of CPS killings, in that students on the bus, police were able to find the 16-year-old shooter and his 15-year-old accomplice.

This is unusual in cases involving gang because teens fear if they talk to police their lives face immediate danger. Besides, they are not going to be in the neighborhood offices because they know the police can’t really ensure their safety from the gang members.

In predominantly African-American Chicago neighborhoods, young males have to always prepare for the worst. For most of them, it’s just their daily life.

Even CPS Chief Executive Officer Arnie Duncan (U-High 1982 graduate) said Chicago lacks enough police officers for more security around high schools with severe related problems and on public transportation.

This reminds us of the desperate times we live in. There’s a greater need for police at public schools than a middle-class neighborhood.

No matter how sad the truth is, it shouldn’t be ignored. I’ve really never thought it could happen to my white friends’ neighborhoods late at night but when I walk my dog after dusk my mom tells me I have to be careful because my neighborhood is considered rough.

This discrimination has remained an issue in the city of Chicago for decades. When I was in Chicago for vacation for change, it’s probably going to continue like this for generations.

The great need for leadership in African-American neighborhoods also creates a demand for this movement. If young black males had someone to pull them together and join them in the fight for their lives, maybe things would be different.

That’s why the parents of Blair Holt, one a Chicago Fire Department lieutenant and the other a police officer, have stepped into the Forefront as leaders in their own community, begging for change.

Young Black males shouldn’t feel afraid to ride the bus or walk home at night if their neighborhoods are not too dangerous, guns shouldn’t be so easily accessible and dead teenagers shouldn’t be just considered another statistic.

Daniel Strauss,’06
Letter From College

Q: Does it feel like you’ve been in college for a long time? A: Yes. It really feels like an eternity to me.

Q: How are you adapting to the new lifestyle? A: It’s been a bit of a struggle, but overall I’m enjoying it.

Q: What are you looking forward to most this semester? A: I’m excited to start my new classes and explore a variety of new subjects.

Q: How has your perspective on life changed since being in college? A: College has taught me the importance of perseverance and pursuing my passions.
Teen-on-teen violence in city resonates in rising reactions

By Rohini Tobacowala

Terror is a tragedy of the United States of America, the land of the plenty, that there would be 27 young people whose lives would end needlessly just this year alone.”

So said Guidance Counselor Ron Tunis of 20 Chicago Public Schools students whose lives have been lost to gunfire so far this school year, the second highest toll since 1998 surpassed only by 28 deaths in 2001-2002. Seven more were beaten, suffocated and stabbed to death.

Concern over violence among adolescents escalated after the son of a firefighter and police officer, Blair Holt, 16, died May 10. An honors student at Percy L. Julian High School, 10330 South Elizabeth Street, Blair was shot on the CTA but unintentionally in the middle of a gang dispute by Michael Pace, 16, 103rd and Halsted.

Pace obtained the gun from Kevin Jones, 13. Both have been charged in the shootings.

Large funeral


“I feel numb because this has happened so much in the Metropolitan area,” Mr. Tusin explained. “It’s hard for me because I’m beginning to feel like I have to accept that this is the reality of life.

“But it shouldn’t be that way. It’s just a poor reflection of society any time that you have a youth, no matter what background he or she is, feeling as though they can take their problems away by taking somebody else’s life. It’s just not right.

“I’m not blaming society for what happened to Blair, but I do believe that the circumstances of our inner city youth is a biproduct of our country’s path. In communities where violence is more prevalent, young men have been conditioned to such a degree that a life of someone else isn’t valuable.

“IT’s a moral issue. And, I think a moral solution will be a great benefit to this problem. But even so, it’s still a complex situation with no easy answers.”

Education, awareness solution

Believing stricter gun control laws cannot aver all violence, Security Guard Mike Cephus said education and self awareness might prove the easiest solution.

“I can’t think of one gun control law that can stop people from committing crimes like these,” Mr. Cephus explained. “Even if there are stricter laws, gang members will try and find some way to obtain guns.

“It’s terrible that this is happening in the African American community, where they are killing their own. But, the thing is that their take on life is that they are protecting their turf. These kids need to be more educated and less ignorant.

“They need more involvement in school activities and they need to be more active in their churches. Everyone needs to pull together and educate them about the act of violence because it’s going to continue until we pull our resources together.

“I hope people can be conscious of their surroundings because ignorance is going to go on forever and it’s unavoidable.”

Join the Club Circle

Junior Jessica Michelle grins as she waits for a friend to join her for cheese fries and cokes.

Photo by Sydney Marcus

Guns the issue

Sophomore Ben Filippo believes the way people are using guns is the real issue.

“Gun control would be bad if they are used for the wrong reason,” Ben said. “But, people use them to hunt and to protect themselves.

“I know, however, that the government spends too much time worrying about nuclear weapons. I mean how often are atomic bombs going to lead people? Millions of people die every year from guns, so what’s really the weapons of mass destruction? We need to focus on our primary problem.”

Activism needed

Upset that inner city youth have not been avoided enough, Junior Yuwen Wu believes the government needs to take an active role and the media has to do a better job.

“Jfelt like if the shooting had occurred in a more affluent area or a suburb it would have been covered more quickly by the media,” Yuwen said.

“I feel like inner city youth have been deprived and they need to be acknowledged.

“They’re just trying to get an education. Hopefully things will improve by government funding.

“I also think that stricter gun laws would help because it would make it harder to get guns and it would be less prevalent.”

“IT’s going to be tough but the government needs to find a way.”

Faculty decides to continue discussion on access to grades

Whether to offer parents access to their children’s grades and attendance records to what extent and how will continue to be discussed next year, the faculty decided at its May 1 meeting.

In an informal anonymous vote, the faculty also decided the Peabody School program which had been discussing as an access possibility was not the best choice for the school.

A faculty committee has been exploring possibilities for giving parents access to student grades and records, an opportunity increasing numbers of schools nationwide are implementing.

New department heads named; faculty union elects officers

Appointments for chairpersons of nine departments have been announced by Lab School Director David Magill.

All serve three-year terms, with two exceptions. Three-year appointments are as follows:

History: Ms. Andrea Martynoff and Ms. Jan Yourist, fine arts: Mr. John Bierer, math: Ms. Jane Cains, physical education: Mr. Dat Dyrs, and world languages: Mr. Steve Farver.

For Rowley Library Ms. Shirley Volk and Ms. Janelle St. Clair have been appointed for one year.

For the Science Department, Ms. Sharon Housinger will continue as chairperson for the next school year. After that Mr. David Delben, Golden Apple winner who will be on leave next year, will begin a three-year term.

The Faculty Association, the teachers’ union, has elected the following officers:

President: Mr. Steve Wilcox; vice-president: Ms. Cynthia Oakes, membership, and Ms. Sharon Housinger, communication, secretary: Ms. Diane Snider; treasurer: Mr. James Cutlet, members-at-large: Mr. Brian Wildeman, High School; Ms. Kristen Frank, Middle School; Ms. Mary Ogilvie, Lower School.
Spring roundup: Soccer girls sail into Super Sectional fame

Team wins 1st AA Sectionals

By Dana Alllasse

Facing past Agra defenders on a humid Thursday, May 24 on Jackman Field, Forward Gabby Clark, freshman, sides steps past the final Argonaut player, obliterating her from the goal and winds up for a shot, she boots it down to the ground, turning her head to watch the ball slide perfectly into the net. Gabby’s second goal of the game, just over 15 minutes into the second half, secured the girls’ varsity soccer team’s 3-0 Sectional victory and advancement to the Super Sectionals May 28 at Illinois Benedictine College in Lisle.

The Maroons’ win marked the first Class AA Sectional Championship for girls’ soccer and clinched a historic spring season.

Racking up a 3-0 Independent School League record as of Monday deadline, the girls’ varsity soccer team coasted past prime rival Latin to claim 1st in Conference for the first time in U-High history. The team’s 3-1 Regional victory over Marist May 22, on Jackman Field, set the stage for the win in a season.

“We’ve always come thin and fast,” said Forward Molly Scholz, co-captain with Alllasse and Gabby Clark, attendance and athletic director, BSM female.

“Everyone got psyched for the game and between what’s been done in SSL and Regional, it feels so good. Our record is incredible and our 102 goals this season is incredible. This is our 14th shut out.”

“Before the game I just tried to get everyone focused. I told the team what I’ve been telling them before each game; ‘Don’t make this my last game.’ So far, so good.”

“Facing 4th of 23 teams in the Thornwood Sectionals, May 18 in South Holland, the girls’ track team qualified a second eight girls for State and finished 3rd in Conference.”

“Most of the girls are hitting their strides for State and this year all the distance runners were able to return,” said Katherine Zhou, junior.

“I think our qualifying has a lot to do with the coaches making good decisions about who to put in what race. For some of us, if we’ve been putting in a different event we may not have been as likely to make it.”

“Several of us were seeded 3rd going into Sectionals and you need to make top two to qualify for State. Coach James told us over and over that we could win. That really increased our motivation and the excitement of possibility.”

Taking 1st in Conference over North Shore, the boys’ track team placed 8th of 22 at the Oak Park River Forest Sectional, May 18.

“Both the boys’ and girls’ teams were really committed to the idea of our team as a family,” Katherine continued. “A few of the boys came out for the girls’ Sectional and wore ‘U-High’ across their chests to support us.”

Rocket’s return revives hopes for New York, at game’s expense

THE ROCKET RELAUNCHES this week. After a long season, after Rogers Crenson packed his bags for Houston, the seven-time Cy Young award-winning pitcher has come back to the Big Apple ready to wear pinstripes once again. And all it cost to get him there was a $28 million salary.

Make no mistake about it. Clemens’ return to the Yankee clubhouse could not have come at a better time. Wasting a 9-14 April record, the Yankees have suffered one D-L stat after the next for their pitching staff, climactic with rookie Phil Hugens’ hamstring injury during a particularly even unimpressive outing against Texas last month.

The Yankees needed good news after getting off to a bad start. As the Sox 553 fans at Yankee Stadium roared after hearing Clemens announce his return, few doubted that the Rocket’s return may be just what the Yankee team needs to remain right in the mix for the American title.

Yet, perhaps in paying roughly $1 million per month to a player who made little hesitation to change clubhouses three seasons ago, the Yankees are sending the wrong message.

Clemens currently stands 8th in the career wins list with 348 and 2nd in strikeouts with 4,604. Perhaps the question ball fans should ask themselves is whether these records warrant him special privileges. More than this, does any player deserves special privileges?

The fact remains that Clemens has never and will never be a team player. Though the Astros partly took on Clemens to mentor fledging pitchers, many Astros players have said that aside from starting appearances, they rarely saw Clemens at all. For above all Rogers Clemens is a mercenary.

Perhaps his quintessential opposite, Yankee Captain Derek Jeter, has devoted his career to denouncing the throne he deserves to fill. Despite a brief fielding slump in early April, Jeter has harmonizing a starting backstop in the mid-inning fielding his team's erratic start, leading the American League with a .368 batting average and 50 hits just three weeks ago.

For my last column this year it seemed only fitting to write about the game I love above all others: baseball. As the manages of U-High’s baseball team, I have for the past three years been a avid MLB fan for longer, I consider baseball an integral part of me. Yet in all the games I have kept score for the Maroons or made my way to professional ballpark, I have rarely questioned the game’s integrity.

Only recently, as I find myself writing about players with allegiances set in stone and players demanding special treatment, have I come to revaluate the moral implications of baseball and what makes the game so sacred.

While the return of arguably the game’s best right-hander will undoubtedly keep my Yankees in a position to win, this column has once again found herself wondering whether the cost has become too high.

Sports

Dana Alfassi

Alfassi was the voice of action. He said his final words on the air with his customary humor and wit, leaving the audience in a state of mourning for his passing.

Alfassi died of a heart attack on May 13, 2007, at the age of 72. He was a fixture on the Chicago radio scene for over 40 years, hosting the popular "Sportsline" program on AM 670 The Score.

Alfassi was born in Chicago on July 11, 1934, and grew up in the city's South Side neighborhood. He began his broadcasting career in the late 1950s, working as a radio announcer for various stations, including WLS and WGN.

In 1976, Alfassi joined WGN for its "Sportsline" program, which quickly became one of the most popular sports shows in the city. He stayed with the station until his retirement in 2007.

Alfassi's trademark was his ability to make sports commentary entertaining and accessible to fans of all ages. He was known for his quick wit and his ability to make light of even the most serious of sporting events.

He is survived by his wife, Doris, and their children, Michael, Jennifer, and Steven. He was predeceased by a daughter, Erin, who died in 2002.

In his final days, Alfassi was a vocal advocate for improved mental health care and was a frequent speaker at events promoting the cause. He is remembered by his many fans and colleagues as a kind, gentle man who brought joy to many through his work on the air.

-- Scott Craig, junior
Wheels & Things

Tour de Hyde Park

So maybe Junior Hannah Solomon-Strauss can't go to France for the Tour de France. But she can put on a Tour de France shirt, buy a bike from Wheels & Things, and ride around Hyde Park.

5201 South Harper Court ■ (773) 493-4326

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