

U-High MIDWAY

Volume 82, Number 9 ■ University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 ■ Friday, June 1, 2007

Famed scientist to address newest grads 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 Pritzker School of Medicine.

A U. of C. faculty member and former Lab Schools parent, the 82-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 Resnick 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 Beanie Meadow, Nick Feder, Anne Wildman and Natalie Lewis who will sing Ysaye Barnwell's "Wanting Memories," and a violin performance by Andrew Sugaya and Mara MacMahon on piano.

University Organist Thomas Weisflog will play processional and recessional music on the Rockefeller Chapel organ. Seniors, in traditional maroon caps 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 Matt Horvat.

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

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-end events including Alumni Weekend, with 12 classes returning. They include '42, '52, '57, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97 and 2002.

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 Scammons Garden.

Coordinated by Homer Shew, Nathan Worcester 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.

Tomorrow, 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.

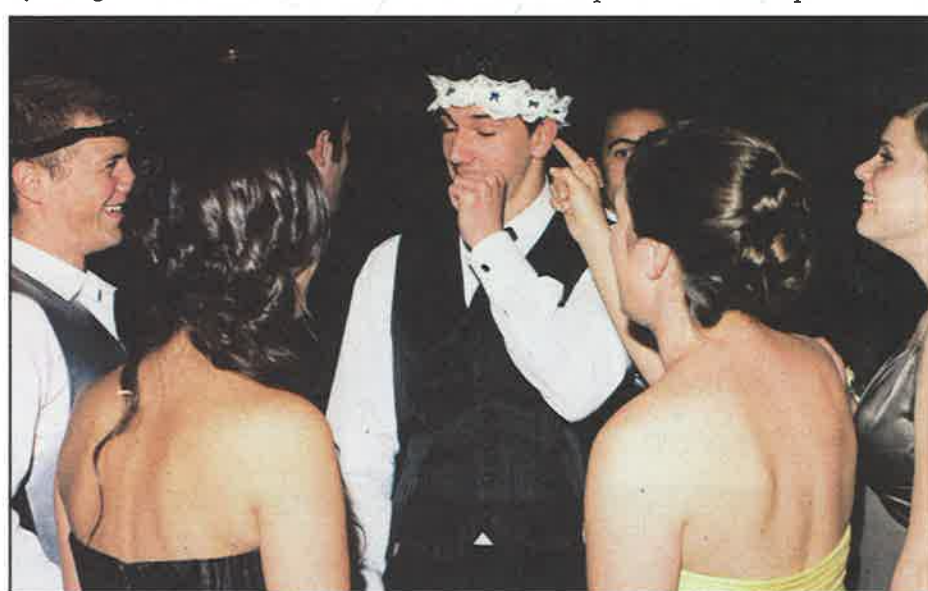
Photos by Yoolim Kim



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 Calla 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.



Among 130 Promgoers few participated in the traditional garter ceremony. Elan Weiner and Mike McCarthy placed Amanda Pappas' and Sarah Fischel's garters on their heads as Robin Shapiro enjoys the fun.

On the inside

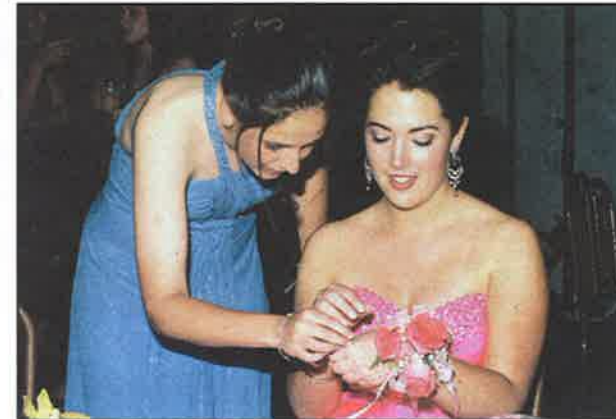
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Rose petals and a glass fishbowl with floating candles create an elegant dining setting for Simon Bean and Emily Scheidt from the U. of I.



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



Amid an evening of colorful fashions, Allie Brudney admires Liz Parsons' pink rosed corsage accented with white ribbon.

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



Photo by Jeremy Handrup

Grimm, 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 Grimm's fairy tales with color and motion.

An original score added even more sparkle to a witty script and animated performances.

From young children to great grandparents, the audience seemed captivated start to finish.

From left are:

Isaac Burgess, Alexandra Coleman, Sage Mahoney, Tyne Alexander, Giuseppe Zingales, Sara Posner, Kaitlyn Chang, James Krull, Varsha Raghavan.

Eastern schools get highest number of '07 grads

But Midwestern schools add up, too

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 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 Donovan 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," Donovan 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.: Elan Weiner. **Bard, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York:** Delaney Nichols; **Beloit, Wisconsin:** Alice Quinlan; **Boston University, Massachusetts:** Noelle Naoum, Sherry Zhou; **Bowdoin, Brunswick, Maine:** Evan Graff; **Bradley, Peoria, Illinois:** Victoria Thomas.

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena: Karthik Sarma; **Colgate, Hamilton, New York:** Courtney Connors; **Columbia University, New York City:** Adina Levin.

Dartmouth, Hanover, New Hampshire: Molly Schloss; **Davidson, North Carolina:** Namrata Patel; **DePaul, Chicago:** Samuel Dreessen; **Dickinson, Carlisle, Pennsylvania:** Erica Zagaja; **Duke, Durham, North Carolina:** Rachel Hanessian.

Elmhurst College, Illinois: Andrew Arkin; **Emory, Atlanta, Georgia:** Sonali Rupani.

Georgetown, Washington, D.C.: Daniel Engel-Hall; **George Washington, Washington, D.C.:** Tyne Alexander, Evan Dorfman, Katherine Hayes, Donovan Mitchem; **Grinnell, Iowa:** Harley Chang.

Harvard, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Leo Carlson, Katherine Lauderdale and Rebecca Resnick; **Howard, Washington, D.C.:** Cortni Brown.

Illinois Wesleyan, Bloomington: Nicholas Kogelman; **Indiana University at Bloomington:** Helen Jin; **International Christian University, Tokyo:** Lilla Dent.

Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, Maryland: Peter Hepplewhite and Paul Schweiker.

Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois: Jeremy Lacocque.

Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin: Steven Jones.

Macclester, St. Paul, Minnesota: Louis Baggetto, Zena Hardt, Eliot Popko; **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge:** Andrew Sugaya; **Middlebury, Vermont:** Alicia Brudney.

McGill, Montreal, Canada: Sarah Fischel, Iain Macdonald; **Miami, Oxford, Ohio:** Eric Ng.

New York University, New York City: Amanda Faraone, Palika Makam, Zoe Stal, Xavier Winslow; **Northwestern, Evanston, Illinois:**

Andrew Kern, Philip Jacobson.

Oberlin, Ohio: Anne Wildman.

Pomona, Claremont, California: Zach Feldman, Amalia Roth; **Princeton, New Jersey:** Alexander Cantwell, Max Cuneo-Grant, Elizabeth Parsons, Benjamin Rosner, Joshua Rosner, Stephanie Stern; **Purdue, West Lafayette, Indiana:** Bharath Arun, Jason Hu.

Reed, Portland, Oregon: Jeffrey Bishku-Ayul, Stefan Burgess von Hallberg; **Ripon, Wisconsin:** Benjamin Worcester.

Sarah Lawrence, Bronxville, New York: Nicholas Feder; **School of Visual Arts, New York:** Lucia Donner; **Southern Methodist, Dallas:** Charles Fisher; **Swarthmore, Pennsylvania:** Hugh Montag.

Trinity, Hartford, Connecticut: Zack Slouka; **Tufts, Medford, Massachusetts:** Marcell Babai, Alex Gomez, Bruce Ratain, Claire Redfield.

University of California at Berkeley: Emma Lantos; **University of Chicago, Illinois:** Elizabeth Lin, Nneka McGuire, Katherine McIntyre, Sen Pu, Ruoyu Wang; **University of Illinois at Chicago:** Radhika Attele, Megan Harris, Holly Reid, Allana Tachauer; **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:** Henry Africano, Simon Bean, Vinesh Jeevanandam, Pablo Lopez-Domowicz, Nina Massad, Daniel Wheaton; **University of Iowa, Iowa City:** Samuel Shraiberg; **University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida:** Natalie Lewis; **University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia:** Noah Breslau, Jacqueline Chaudhry.

University of Redlands, California: Sahai Redleaf; **University of Rochester, New York:** Mari Topel; **University of San Francisco, California:** Christopher Jungert; **University of Southern California, Los Angeles:** Elizabeth Burns, Alexa Rice; **University of Wisconsin, Madison:** Hannah Rothfield.

Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri: Peter Bush, Mara MacMahon, Tara Summers; **Wesleyan, Middletown, Connecticut:** Max Rothstein, Bradley Spahn; **Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts:** Alexandra Coleman.

Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans: Melanie McClain.

Yale, New Haven, Connecticut: William Diamond, Jacqueline Meadow.

Editor's note: Thanks to Learning and Counseling Chairperson Will Dix for helping the Midway to publish the list. College choices were correct as of last weekend but are subject to change.



Donovan



Elizabeth

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School saga gets renewed for fall

In less than a week, summer vacation will start. In almost exactly three months school will start again. You have been warned. The cost of being in the student cast of this continuing series next year will be \$20,455.

Here is next year's schedule:

Monday, August 13: Athletic teams report for training (golf Wednesday, August 8); **Thursday, August 30:** New Teacher Orientation Day.

Tuesday, September 4-Friday, September 7: Faculty Planning Day; **Monday, September 10:** school begins; **Tuesday, October 2:** Open House; **Wednesday, October 17:** sophomore and junior PSATs; **Sunday, October 21:** Admissions Open House; **Friday, November 2:**

Faculty in-service day (no school for students); **Wednesday, November 21-Friday, November 23:** Thanksgiving recess; **Friday, December 14:** Fall Quarter ends; **Monday, December 17-Tuesday, January 1:** Winter Break.

Wednesday, January 2: Winter Quarter begins; **Monday, February 18:** Winter Holiday (no school); **Saturday, March 1:** "Connections" benefit; **Tuesday, March 18:** Winter Quarter ends; **Wednesday, March 19-Friday, March 28:** Spring Break.

Monday, March 31: Spring Quarter begins; **Friday, April 18:** Faculty in-service day (no school for students); **Monday, May 28:** Memorial Day (no school); **Friday, June 6-Saturday, June 7:** Alumni Weekend; **Thursday, June 12:** Commencement.



"I can't wait for summer because I can actually kick back and relax with my friends with no stress."
—Van Sandwick, junior

summer outlook 3

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2007

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 Bieniek 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 Hornung, 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 eight 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 Liese Ricketts 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 Bazan.

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 Beatus 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 Philizaire will be returning as a counselor at Adventure Kids, the Lab Schools

MAY DAY MOMENT



Photo by Steven Jones

Flooding Jackson Boulevard with banners, signs and both American and Mexican flags, an immigration rally May 1 drew more than 150,000 people. Sponsored by the National Immigrant Solidarity Network, the rally raised awareness of 12 million illegal immigrants living in America pushing for legal status as citizens.

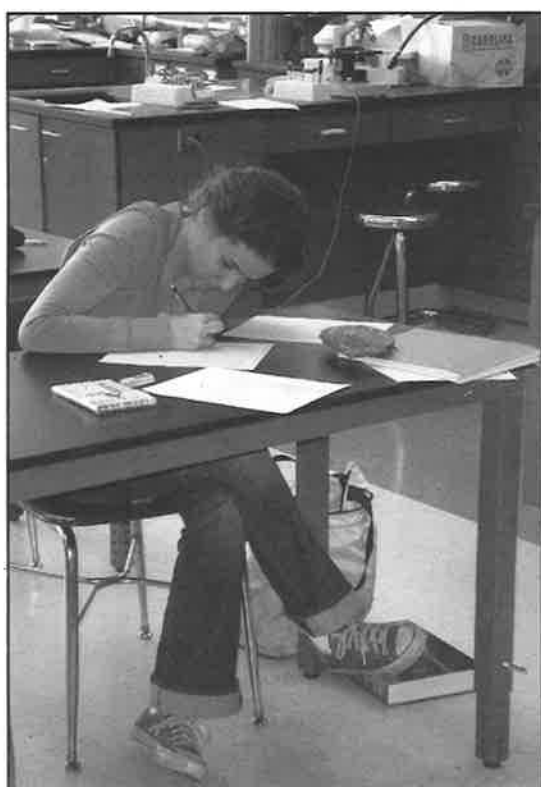
camp.

"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."

Jump for Joy

Struggling through her last final, Alya Forster dreams of a victory meal at her favorite restaurant with her friends.



Photos by Sydney Marcus



"YAY!!! Quesadillas" Alya cheers, as she skips down the hallway in a rush to consume tasty treats at the Medici.

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"It's been fun to work with color and I'm excited to see everyone's reaction when it comes out in the fall."
—Rebecca Steuer, junior



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 square 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 collages we piled up images from the internet and graphics as a background for the submitted text and art," explained Senior Noah Breslau, editor-in-chief with Senior Katherine Lauderdale.

"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 on making the Rites of May play and we might use that."

In his eighth and final year as Renaissance adviser, Art Teacher Brian Wildeman said the magazine will be "a little smaller in pages."

Estimates range from 50 to 70 pages.

About 25 pieces 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. Wildeman 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. Wildeman as adviser next year.

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

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

SENIOR EDITORS—Tom Brewer, Nick Mittlestead, Nathan Worcester, Pilar Langon, Ana Bezanilla, Dylan Reid, Quin Mittlestead.

EDITORS—Alex Fryer, Keira Kennedy, Ben Worcester, Scott Craig, Nick Elitzik, Sofiya Nygaard, Chelsea Satterlee, Frank Firke, Dorian Williams, Homer Shew, Rob Webber.



Photo by Liwen Xu

Salute to Service

Sophomores were honored for their Community Service, Peer Leaders and site sponsors were recognized and eight "Unsung Heroes" were added to the school's Community Hall of Fame at the annual Community Learning Luncheon May 24. Chicago Public Schools CEO Arne Duncan, 1982-U-High graduate, spoke about the influence of the Lab Schools in the city and urged U-Highers to go forth and continue being leaders. Math Teacher Jane Canright (here with Sophomore Addie Epstein) was among the Heroes chosen by sophomore advisories along with the following:

Mr. Bob Bachand, counselor; Mr. Michael Cephus, security officer; Ms. Ying Sau Cheung, mail room coordinator; Mr. Neil Cooper, Writing Center tutor and substitute teacher; Mr. Anthony Hunter, custodian; Ms. Diane Puklin, history teacher; and Mr. Tony Wilson, director of facilities and survey. Also honored was Mr. Carl Carpenter, Medical Bakery employee who died in a shooting last month.



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 Heacox, contest chairperson. Awards also were presented to Midway staff members for individual achievement. From left are Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler (Midway adviser with Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts), Cydney Weiner, Alya Forster, Mona Dasgupta, David McAlpine, Robin Shapiro and Eric Cochrane. Each recipient was presented with an awards certificate and then asked to comment on his or her 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 in store. 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 Liwen Xu, editor-in-chief with Senior Michael 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 design, story and photographs in each spread," 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 Hanessian headed up a corps of photographers advised by Photojournalism Teacher Liese 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 Ruiqi Tang, the staff sold a record \$4,700 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: Eva Jaeger; sports team photos: Steven Jones. **SECTIONS**—Life and Organizations: Rebecca Steuer; Learning: Liwen Xu; Sports: B.J. Arun and Peter Hepplewhite; People: Sheena Anand; Community: Ruiqi Tang. The student adviser is Louis Baggetto.

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

Senior Jeremy Lacocque 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 Lacocque; the grandson of a faculty member, retired French teacher Claire Lacocque; and the brother of a Midway editor-in-chief and national best story award winner, Rebecca Lacocque, 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 newsfeature editor; his role in bringing more graphics to Midway design; and a recommendation from Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler, which praised his sense of ethics as a journalist.

Jeremy's father and his mother, Jeannie, 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."



Jeremy

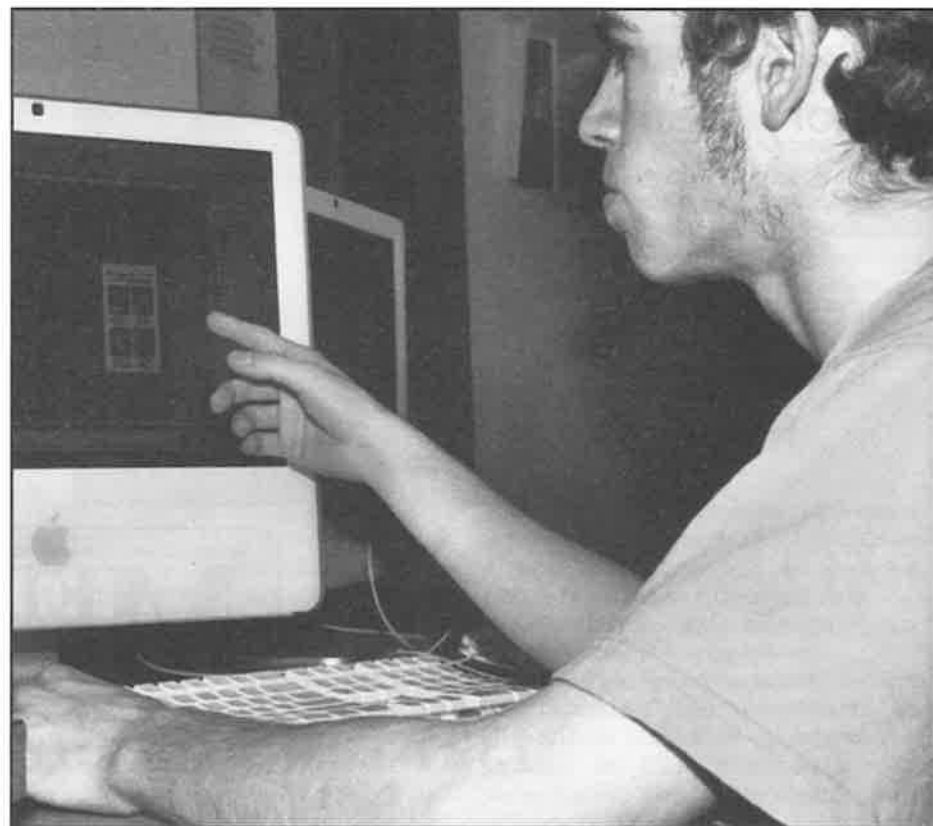


Photo by Sydney Marcus

Design Editor Ben Picker has totally re-envisioned the look of U-Highlights.

Dill or no Dill?



Photos
by
Ramzi
Dreeseen

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.

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

"I'm going to miss Mr. Bachand the most next year. He's always willing to listen and is great person to talk to."
—Molly Simon, sophomore

Some people *are* irreplaceable

One is known for her sophisticated teaching style, another for teaching a classic piece of literature. One is known for her thoughtful and insightful perspective, 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 Puklin, Mr. Hal Hoffen-

kamp, Mrs. Shirley Holbrook, Mr. Bob Bachand and Mr. Earl Bell, the five teachers retiring this year, have made learning at U-High a memorable experience.

Together, they have taught at U-High longer than the school has existed and have influenced more students than anyone can count. And with their departure, they all leave behind a legacy that shows how truly irreplaceable they are.

All photos by Liwen Xu



Ms. Diane Puklin *history*

Professional, passionate and ready for tomorrow

By Gretchen Eng

Midway reporter

Cherished as professional and passionate by U-High students, History Teacher Diane Puklin plans to continue setting standards for history teachers, even in retirement.

Growing up in downstate Peoria alongside her three siblings, Mrs. Puklin received a Ph.D. in history with a specialty in the histories of science and medicine in 1980. After two years at New Trier, Mrs. Puklin came to teach full-time at U-High in 1994. Having previously taught U.S. History and Women's Studies, she is well known by U-Highers for the collegiate like atmosphere of her current classes, Early World History, A.P. and Modern World History.

"It's been very stimulating to work with the students here," Mrs. Puklin said. "I've really

enjoyed watching them grow. One thing I have particular pleasure in is seeing the A.P. classes studying for the test and realizing how much they really know about World History. I also love when the Early World students take that big cognitive leap and start grasping the material. Each class has its own personality and dynamic."

After completing Mrs. Puklin's Early World and A.P. Modern World History classes, Junior Daniel Hornung considers her a favorite teacher and an inspirational individual.

"She cares for the students so much and is still so great at teaching the facts," Daniel said. "She provided me with a great introduction into high school history and the way in which she prepared me for the A.P. test last year was just phenomenal. From her, I've really learned how to read and understand history."

Bringing her Islamic studies to history class curricula nationwide, Mrs. Puklin intends to devote the first few months of her retirement to get her work published.

"I'm not getting any younger and I have papers I've been working on and other goals," Mrs. Puklin said. "Primarily I want to finish the paper I've been working on about science and Islam under the Abbasids, which I just can't seem to get done when there are papers to grade. I'd love to get it published and add my work to the field of Islam, which is not covered as well as it should be in high school history classrooms."

In addition to improving nationwide curricula, Mrs. Puklin wants to enact higher teaching standards through her position on the National Council of History Education, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving and promoting the study of history in American schools.

"The current required exam grade to teach history in Illinois is 54 percent," Mrs. Puklin said. "I want to see that raised to a respectful percentage. In the past years, I've witnessed the study of the history take 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 critiquing sources and appreciating the role of the past in the present."

Completing her plans, Mrs. Puklin expects some relaxation in the coming years, namely in spending time with her family.

"Of course, there are my grandchildren," Mrs. Puklin said. "I have two daughters, both seven blocks from one 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. Earl Bell *history*

No debate about it

By Mona Dasgupta

Associate editor

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

One whispers fearfully, "Has anyone started the paper?" Before anyone can answer, the group hears a familiar booming yet cheerful, Southern accent approaching from the hall. Everyone hastily rushes to a seat. As the hefty man takes his seat behind a wooden desk, with his navy suspenders hanging tightly over his Hawaiian button down, he readjusts his glasses, resting on the bridge of his nose. "Start talking," he says, in an intimidating matter-of-fact tone. Silence pervades the room.

This man, A.P. American History and American History Teacher Earl Bell, known for assigning the dreaded "paper" which has instilled fear into generations of U-Highers, is retiring after four decades at U-High.

A dominant, respected figure and leader at U-High, Mr. Bell came to the Lab Schools in 1967 after four years of teaching American History at Kecoughtan High School in Hampton, Virginia. Born in Aulander, North Carolina, a small town of 1,000 people, Mr. Bell at U-High brought a Southern influence to a Northern school.

Mr. Bell has taught World History, Geography, World History and elective courses. He also coached debate, Model U.N. as well as the first girls' tennis team. Mr. Bell served as Faculty Association president from 1975 to 1980, chairperson of the High School faculty, and sponsored the black students' club, Cousins Brothers and Sisters, in 1968.

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



Not retiring, but moving on to new quests, h

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 Gauntner is relocating to Ohio with her fiancé. Faculty members Sonaar Luthra, English; Ira Nirenberg, physics; and George Pezzuti 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. Gauntner 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 40 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 year has been presenting at the National Service Learning Conference. The conference is our opportunity to shine and show what we've been doing for the community at our school and while lot of other high schools are doing some interesting things, the conference always makes me realize how special our Community Learning Program is."

Moving back home as well, Mr. Nirenberg plans to focus on settling down after Hurricane Katrina.

"I am going back to Mississippi where I lived for one year after being evacuated from New Orleans during Katrina," Mr. Nirenberg explained. "When I came here at the beginning of

the year I was very upfront and said that this was only going to be a one year position, but it was extremely tempting to stay. I bought a small house in Mississippi that needs some work and after I leave I am going to be fixing up my house and getting my physical situation together."

Wishing to spend more time with his family, Mr. Dyer intends to teach his son.

"I have only been working here since July of last year," Mr. Dyer explained. "I was a Spanish teacher before I came here and at the school where I used to teach we didn't have a Language Lab. It was very interesting to be able to set up a lab for the sole purpose of aiding foreign language classes. Next year I will be staying home and home schooling my 5-year-old son. I may also do some Spanish tutoring or computer programming on the side."

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Mr. Bob Bachand *guidance*

Spreading sweetness in more ways than one

By Anna Katia Zbikowski

Associate editor

Relaxed in a black leather swivel chair, Counselor Bob Bachand reclines in his office surrounded by walls 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 his love for the students has never wavered.

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 masters in counseling. After working as a counselor at Proviso East 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 Tracey asking if he could fill in for a year.

On a visit to U-High, Mr. Bachand noticed 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 within the faces and I heard snatches of conversation about academic classes," he said, "The students seemed very academically oriented which was very different from the schools where I had previously worked."

For the next nine years, Mr. Bachand worked as a class counselor. He became known for the hordes of U-Highers cramming both his and 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 his own part time position as a counselor for new students.

Involved in the U-High community, Mr. Bachand sponsored the Asian Students' Association and the Women's Issues Club and served on the All School Steering Committee, the Admissions board and as chairperson of the High School Faculty. In recognition of his contributions, he received three honorary diplomas from graduating classes.

After retirement, Mr. Bachand looks forward to relaxing and catching



Bell papers rang the bell for lofty ideals

till I dropped," Mr. Bell said of deciding in April to retire. "I went through different stages, changing my mind about it. This definitely wasn't an impulsive decision but I feel it's time to retire and live life a little differently."

Although he doesn't have any extensive future traveling plans, Mr. Bell intends to head south, especially in the winters, to his home in Pine Knoll Shores, North Carolina. "I do love California and the coast of Oregon," Mr. Bell said. "But I enjoy spending time in Pine Knoll Shores because I love the quiet down there, the freedom and the beauty. I also love to plant flowers, which I'll do a lot of especially since they won't die down there like they do here because of the cold."

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

"I graduated high school in a class of 26 people and then went to Mars Hill Junior College in North Carolina where, in my sophomore year, I met my most influential teacher, John McLeod," Mr. Bell said. "He showed me that teaching could be so much fun and he also made me love to teach and learn. One time I was in McLeod's class and he asked us 'What's the prettiest word in the English language?' We were a bunch of football players and such, calling out random words. Finally he told us that the word was 'belly.' We all laughed so hard because it was so shocking. McLeod really saw the fun in creativity; he got everyone thinking and was such an important figure in my life."

Loving to learn and spend time with children, Mr. Bell felt that becoming a teacher combined the two.

"I didn't know if I could teach, but then again, no one really does until they get into it," Mr. Bell said. "What I've enjoyed most about teaching is seeing what has happened to kids I've taught. I love seeing whom they've turned into as adults—that has definitely been ceaselessly interesting."

Mr. Bell met his wife, Donna, at Mars Hill Junior College after which they both attended Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, graduating in 1960. She worked as a junior high school teacher in south suburban Matteson before retiring three years ago. The Bells raised two children, '80 U-High graduate Tim and Karen, an '81 graduate of Crete-Monee High School in south suburban Crete.

Mayor of south suburban Park Forest South, now University Park, from 1983 to 1985, Mr. Bell plans to pick up politics again. Also following his retirement, Mr. Bell plans to help Tim work for the Chicago Workers Collaboration, an organization for Hispanic and African American day laborers.

Mr. Bell plans to continue coaching Model U.N. at U-High after school as well as work with the school archives.

"I stopped coaching debate at U-High after Tim graduated," Mr. Bell said. "Ten years later a student of mine, Chris Mann, got a flyer for the Model U.N. Penn Conference and we participated to figure out how this extracurricular activity worked. After that, we started going to a few more conferences and just kept building on it every year. We've built a powerhouse team and have kept expanding. I love developing talent."

Remembering a student from the 1970s, Mr. Bell recalled a favorite



memory about the boy who, according to Mr. Bell, hated school.

"This one student and I, we had this war going on," Mr. Bell said. "I was constantly telling him to be more careful about his work, reread what he wrote and such. I remember after the final exam, I watched him walk up to where I was sitting, rereading what he wrote and pausing in his steps every couple of seconds."

"Finally he hands me the exam and says 'Well, this is it Mr. Bell, I've enjoyed being dominated by you this year.' It was so funny."

Ms. Shirley Holbrook *math*

A dedicated teacher, a priceless faculty conscience and leader

By Julie Carlson

Associate editor

Perseverance. That is the word that Math Teacher Shirley Holbrook says she lives by.

She has persevered through disinterested students and difficult calculations, all while "sticking to her guns," as she puts it and developing a quirky signature style that includes a skull and crossbones scribbled next to miscalculations. But, after 39 years at U-High, both Ms. Holbrook and her infamous emblem are retiring.

After growing up in New Jersey and graduating from Brandeis University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in math, Ms. Holbrook came to the University of Chicago in 1967 to earn a Master of Arts in Teaching Math degree. As part of the nationally famous program, she student taught at U-High and has remained here since, taking one year off in 1971 to travel to France with her husband, Richard Holbrook. Her children, Daniel and Nina, are both U-High graduates. She has taught every math course here, most recently Advanced Algebra, Pre-Calculus and A.P. Calculus BC.

Always giving her words careful thought before she speaks, Ms. Holbrook says she decided to stay at U-High because of teachers who were doing more than reading from a state approved textbook.

"I wanted to stay primarily because of the faculty, the Math

Department in particular," she explained. "It was full of dynamic people creating their own curriculum, which I thought was really interesting. One of the first courses I ever taught at U-High was on programming; I even wrote my own book on the subject."

Just as she shaped her own curriculum in the programming course, Ms. Holbrook also helped shape the U-High community by initiating the diversity initiative, serving as May Project head and faculty chairperson and actively participating in multiple committees, including the current steering committee of the All School Council.

"I think the question is, 'Are there any committees I haven't been on?'" Ms. Holbrook jested. "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, I believe, because they are here longer than the administrators and longer than the students, even the lifers. It's our home, in a sense, and we want to make it a good place for families and students. I get to bring my concern and knowledge about the school to the committees. I also get some personal enjoyment from getting to work with colleagues whom I otherwise don't see."

Aside from the committees, Ms. Holbrook said that hearing from students years after their graduation also brings her fulfillment.

"There are turnaround stories, 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're just 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 suddenly and that's really what teachers live for."

Despite enjoying her students, Ms. Holbrook said she looks 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 appealing to me because teaching makes it impossible to have sustained involvement with other things. Playing piano, for example, reading or traveling are all things I'm interested in but haven't been able to do enough. Even being a good friend is hard because teaching consumes your life, so 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'll make concrete plans after that."

Home ground

to broaden his range of career options, Mr. Luthra rolling in New York University's Graduate School will be opportunities.

comes to using the English language in general these are so many new forms of communication," Mr. Luthra said. "I think education needs to branch off from the reading and writing curriculum. It's not so much that it to teach classic literature, it's just that if you limit those two things you aren't exploring the many other communication."

son I am excited about going to graduate school at cause it can lead to so many more things; I may end ultant, I may end up teaching, I may end up in design e to just get a masters in English I wouldn't be able to those opportunities."

Pass the candy, please)

n reading.

going to spend four to five months at my condo in Miami Beach ng the winter," he said. "I'm also an avid bridge player and I love vim; I'm hoping to be able to swim at least five days a week. I subscriptions to four theatre companies and I hope to attend even e productions than I already do. I also want to catch up on my ng and maybe travel. I have distant relatives in Sydney, Australia, are always asking me to come visit and a lot of my friends in mi Beach say that Buenos Aires is a nice place to visit."

ough he is leaving, Mr. Bachand leaves behind a legacy of the e door policy in the Guidance and Counseling Office.

Without question I will miss the students the most, especially e energy and commitment to the school and academics, and their al interaction. I always used to go on every class retreat because ve me the opportunity to see students in a nonacademic setting. I be gone, but hopefully not forgotten—that's what e-mail is for."

Mr. Hal Hoffenkamp *English*

Bringing books to life, he made reading infectious

By Robin Shapiro

Associate editor

"Every day he brings wisdom and humor to peoples' lives," said longtime friend and colleague English Teacher Darlene McCampbell about English Teacher Hal Hoffenkamp.

A Chicago native, Mr. Hoffenkamp attended South Shore High School and studied at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He then acquired his master's degree in English at the U. of C.

After a dispute with the principal, Mr. Hoffenkamp left Hyde Park High School 37 years ago and interviewed at the Lab Schools for an opening as an English teacher. Mr. Hoffenkamp was hired as an English I teacher at U-High in 1977 and later became an English electives teacher. But what entices U-Highers most about Mr. Hoffenkamp is Leo Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina," which remains the most famous read among U-Highers.

"I think that the novel is really just about us. It shows how the characters love each other for reasons they don't understand and hate each other for reasons they also don't fully understand. And, they want to believe in God but have doubts about His existence. They are all full of pride but it's funny because pride doesn't satisfy them. It's amazing that Tolstoy can make the characters as complicated as we are. What we read about in Anna is all stuff we are conflicted with in our own lives."

"In one of my copies of 'Anna Karenina' I wrote in the margins, 'Thanks Leo, now I understand!' It really shows the complications of family and all aspects of life as well. It shows all of the complications involved when a man loves a

woman, when a woman loves a man and when a parent loves a child. And I think Tolstoy has a really heightened understanding of that. There isn't much to know about life that isn't in Anna Karenina."

Mr. Hoffenkamp recalls his most memorable time at U-High, when a senior class hired a stripper to show up at one of his classes.

"A while ago there was a class of seniors who arranged to have a stripper come to class," Mr. Hoffenkamp explained. "I was teaching the class and one student gets up and leaves the class, so I assumed the kid had to use the bathroom. But then the next student leaves. Then two more, then three more. And soon enough, there was no one in the class anymore except for me. I had no idea what was going on. There was just an empty classroom."

"Soon enough the seniors started returning, but instead, every senior from other classes came into the room. Then a woman walked in with a tape player and starts dancing. I don't know if it was funny, but it was certainly very awkward with the students. It was so embarrassing because I really had to keep my cool."

Several U-Highers said they were enthused by Mr. Hoffenkamp's class. Senior Natalie Lewis, who has been in Mr. Hoffenkamp's class five of her six electives, believes that Mr. Hoffenkamp relates the literature discussed in class to real life.

"I initially heard about Mr. Hoffenkamp's class from someone older than me who told me to be in his class," Natalie said. "They told me that in his class you learn a lot about real life. He really teaches the literature with his own understanding of how other people could have gone through the



experiences. He almost teaches life lessons. After class I will go and talk to him about music or other books he's reading because he is just very relatable. He really is an inspiring person because he loves what he does."

Mr. Hoffenkamp said his true education began at U-High and since, he has learned the most in his life as a teacher.

"Thirty-seven years feels a lot more like seven years," Mr. Hoffenkamp said. "After I came to the Lab Schools, I never gave another thought about working anywhere else. Right from the beginning I knew I would stay here. I will now probably do some other kind of teaching, but in a much less formal way. I may want to do some book discussion groups, or maybe if I could, I might even teach one small course at another school. I may even do a little bit of writing. It's hard to know for sure. I anticipate to stay in touch with people at the Lab Schools. I feel lucky to be able to have taught here for 37 years."

The year at U-High as seen by Midway cartoonist Eric Cochran



As the Midway sees it Adding up a year of successes for U-High

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

From Artsfest 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. Granted it was a little messy, but it was, after all, Spirit Week.

With new sponsorships from Edwardo's Pizza, Jamba Juice and the Graduate School of Business cafeteria, Artsfest 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 Artsfest offer innovative and intriguing workshops, but both the opening ComedySportz assembly and Senior Marcell Babai'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 Students' Association's success in getting State Senator Kwame 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 ideal, 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 instituted 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 and 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 absence of proactivity, 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 expositions of arts, music, humanities, sciences, sports, community and spirit. Add in a fresh and well-liked principal and a standard 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 to Mr. Horvat's credit, he did take the initiative, something that hasn't always been done in the past.

U-High MIDWAY

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The Midway staff expresses its appreciation to the paper's printer of many decades, Metropolitan Press, for the help extended during the year and superlative printing quality.

Say What?

Compiled by Artis Lewis

If you were given a chance this summer to intern 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

ANDREW SUGAYA, senior: I would totally go on a vacation and visit the Greek Islands, buy the Greek Islands once 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 pretty much be a break from life.

MELISSA GRACIA, junior: I would intern 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 intern at a law firm because it would allow me to present myself as a good candidate for college. While working might be a bit stressful, 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.

KEIRA KENNEDY, freshman: I would probably intern 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. It would be the best of both worlds!



Melissa



Myles



Keira

Say what you mean, but there may be a price

FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

It seems the First Amendment is evolving. Just consider the Woodlan Junior-Senior High School journalism teacher from Indiana, chastised for an opinion column appearing in the student newspaper claiming homosexuals deserve tolerance.

Or contemplate the unfortunate case of an honors student at Cary-Grove High School in the Northwest suburbs arrested for writing an English essay. In such cases, freedom of speech now seems a luxury they can't afford.

After the student's opinion column claiming homosexuals deserve tolerance appeared, journalism teacher of eight years Amy Sorrell received a written reprimand for neglect of duty and insubordination.

Ms. Sorrell had agreed to consult the principal about controversial issues 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 filed a lawsuit.

In April, Ms. Sorrell reached a settlement with the East Allen County (EAC) School Board, banning her from



Current Events
Robin Shapiro

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-Senior High School.

Superintendent Kay Novotny claimed Ms. Sorrell's move to Heritage represented an act of "compassion." Yet it seems Ms. Novotny responded anything but compassionately to Ms. Sorrell.

Ms. Novotny claimed the problem with the article had no connection with homosexuality 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 approved.

Now Ms. Sorrell has received a press freedom advocacy 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. Lee 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 bodies," but then continued with a sarcastic "well, 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 met with 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 the Marines after graduation, but after his arrest he was disqualified.

Lee returned to Cary-Grove High School May 4 and charges were dropped May 23. Now, the Marine Corps says Lee may reapply.

Elsewhere, at St. Louis University, administrators passed a charter May 15 allowing the University's Board of Trustees to appoint the student newspaper editors, rather than the staff.

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 schools say, "speak freely" and to not "censor yourself," it's probable 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 reclaims the runway.

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 fun wild, but stick to the basics. When in doubt, less is more. For a crisp, polished look opt for stripes. Whether they're on a long sleeved tee or ballet flats, stripes make anything look fresh, youthful and summery.



Fashion
Dana Alfassa

Remember, stripes on the top mean no pattern on the bottom. Pairing a long tank, short jacket and even shorter shorts could work, too.

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

Combining free flowing dresses with the season's satin sensation will provide the perfect balance of sophistication and casual comfort. Anything skintight or even too snug can be disastrous. Keep it simple. For a banana yellow sheath, simply throw on a pair of metallic or Grecian sandals.

Think futuristic for your handbag. Flat, patent clutches and metallic totes give a modern twist to any look. Nude and wooden platforms give a sexy boost without the done up look of pointy toe stilettos and platform flip flops. Remember, the shorter the shorts 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



Photo by Eva Jaeger

Sophomore Isabel del Canto having her makeup done at Shu Uemura in Saks Fifth Avenue on Michigan Avenue. The stylist is Jason Stamps.

false lashes. For \$15 to \$20, Shu Uemura at Saks Fifth Avenue on Michigan Avenue provides false lashes that will add a Twiggy-esque, larger-than-life look of the '60s to your eyes.

Whether you prefer to mix cashmere cardigans and soft pastels or graphic cover ups and metallics, embrace a free fashion spirit this season. Whether you choose flats or chunky heels, gold bangles or semiprecious stoned earrings, have fun embracing a season filled with retro glamour galore.

Another teenager murdered; will anything change?

IMAGINE A world without gangs, 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 Holt, an honors student at Percy Julian High School, would still be alive.

The day after the shooting on a Chicago Transit Authority bus, by a young black male who claimed Blair's life, 300 Julian students walked out of school protesting, "We are not going to be ignored."

The Blair shooting marked 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. With the help of other 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 gangs because teens fear if they talk to police their lives face immediate danger.

Think about that. Teenagers fear talking to police officers because they know police can't really ensure their safety from gang members.

In predominately African-American Chicago neighborhoods, young males have to always prepare for the worst. For most of them, it's just part of everyday 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 gang 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 never really understood why I can walk around my white friends' neighborhoods late at night but when I walk my dog after dark my mom tells me I have to be careful because my neighborhood becomes dangerous.

This discrimination has remained an issue in the city of Chicago for decades. And, without the motivation for change, it's probably going to continue like this for generations.

The great need for leadership in African-American neighborhoods also creates an obstacle 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 because their neighborhoods are too dangerous, guns shouldn't be so easily accessible and dead teenagers shouldn't just be considered another statistic.



Opinion
Gabe Bump

Reflections after a first year at college

WHEN I VISITED the University of Missouri's overnight-get-acquainted-weekend-thing I was ecstatic that at least two of their dining halls had waffle irons with whipped cream and syrup! Breakfast, lunch and even one dinner of that weekend I ate waffles. The irons frustrated me though. No matter what I tried, the waffle never came out perfectly. This frustrated me so much that when I actually ate the waffle all I thought about was its imperfections.



Daniel Strauss, '06
Letter from College

I wish I had realized that the waffle was still tasty and I could always try again. People tend to pay more attention to the waffle's imperfections rather than its tastiness or the possibility of trying again. That's the general mentality at U-High and high school in general, unfortunately. Some of the "this is the deciding moment" 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 head position on Model U.N., that job as editor-in-chief, that lead

role in the play, seem more important than anything else. Part of that attitude is helpful; it provides an otherwise unattainable drive and passion.

Getting into college is even worse. When I was a senior, everybody seemed to think "if I get into (insert super prestigious school here) then everything will be perfect and I will live happily ever after." A lot of my class didn't get into their top choice school and found life does go on. Imagine that! College has unveiled a few truths for me. One is that U-Highers are indeed gifted and no matter where we go this is apparent; it has been said before by kids I know at Ivy League schools and those less prestigious schools.

Even more surprising for me, high school graduation isn't the be-all-end-all. Graduation doesn't mean everything has to be decided, quite the contrary. Nothing is wrought in stone yet. No super impressive position, grade, or college admission, ensures happiness or means that another opportunity appear. Lots of students, myself included, thought so. But if you think that way, when something doesn't go perfectly it's hard not to focus on the imperfections. What's important to realize is that nothing is perfect but that doesn't make it hopelessly bad. Even if someone else gets that extracurricular position, or that coveted grade or whatever else instead of you, that doesn't mean happiness is unattainable. This is probably the most important lesson I've learned post U-High.

This morning I ate another waffle and instead of brooding on the incompleteness of it I enjoyed it for what it was and thought about making another one. The waffle tasted better than any one I've had before.

"The problem with the American education system is that it doesn't teach the differences between right and wrong."
—Aaron Weiss, junior



Teen-on-teen violence in city resonates in rising reactions

By Rohini Tobaccowala
Community Editor

It's 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 bus unintentionally in the middle of a gang dispute by Michael Pace, 16, 103rd and Halsted.

Pace obtained the gun from Kevin Jones, 15. Both have been charged in the shootings.

Large funeral

Honoring Holt, thousands gathered May 18 at House of Hope on the South Side for his funeral, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson and U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush. He promised to address gun control by introducing the "Blair's Bill" in Congress.

"I feel numb because this has happened so much in the Metropolitan area," Mr. Tunis 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 byproduct 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 avert 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."

There is too much focus on terrorism abroad, Mr. Cephus believes.

"Everyone is so caught up in what's happening abroad that they seem to forget what's happening around them," he said. "There's terrorism right here!"

"We have young children who are given guns by adults or older children. They get younger kids to do this because the justice system is more lenient to juveniles than adults. Except young kids don't have the knowledge on how to handle a weapon."

"They're shooting irrationally. And that's actually what happened to Blair. He was shot because somebody didn't know how to use a gun."

Positive opportunities needed

Living two blocks away from Julian High School, Ms. Karen Rakestraw, mother of Freshman Kris Rakestraw, said young people in the community need positive outlets.

"I'm not surprised with the street violence that's been going on," Ms. Rakestraw said. "I live in Beverly but if you go two blocks out, it feels like it's an entirely different world. Kids who live there need a positive role model."

"They are too involved in gangs and crimes because they get peer pressure from older kids. Since this is a time when kids are lost, parents should be more in tune because it's okay to be nosy once in awhile. I feel really sorry for Michael Pace's mom because she had no idea what he was doing."

"He needed guidance and now he needs to be straightened out because youth who do this need to recognize that life is precious. I grew up on 113th and Halsted. That's 10 blocks away from where the shooting happened. And let me tell you, I've been scared to go on a CTA bus all my life. I never go on it and I never let Kris go on it because it's not safe. I'll take the train but not the bus."

"You never know what kind of people you're going to meet and who will board that bus and what they could do. I just don't want Kris to come in contact with those kind of people because he's a completely different kid."



Art by Eric Cochran

Guns the issue

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

"Guns can be bad if they are used for the wrong reason," Ben said. "But, people use them to hunt and to protect themselves."

"However, I think that the government spends too much time worrying about nuclear weapons. I mean how often are atomic bombs killing 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 cared about enough, Junior Yuwen Wu believes the government needs to take an active role and the media has to do a better job.

"I felt like if the shooting had occurred in a more affluent area or a suburb it would have been covered more thoroughly 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 unanimous vote, the faculty also decided the PowerSchool program it 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.

The faculty plans next year to discuss, among other topics, whether a schoolwide policy should be implemented or teachers should participate based on the nature of their courses, subject matter and teaching approaches.

"The faculty took a straw vote," said Faculty Chairperson Asra Ahmed, guidance counselor.

"The straw vote wasn't binding but was used to get a general feel. The technology committee may look into having more tools for communication between teachers and parents."

New department heads named; faculty union elects officers

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

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

History: Ms. Andrea Martonffy and Ms. Jan Yourist; fine arts: Mr. John Biser; math: Ms. Jane Canright; phys ed, Mr. Dan Dyra; and world languages: Mr. Steve Farver.

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

For the Science Department, Ms. Sharon

Housing will continue as chairperson for the next school year. After that Mr. David Derbes, 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. Spike Wilson; vice presidents: Ms. Cynthia Oakes, membership, and Ms. Sharon Housing, communication; secretary: Ms. Diane Snider; treasurer: Mr. James Catlett; members-at-large: Mr. Brian Wildeman, High School; Ms. Kristin Frank, Middle School; Ms. Mary Ogilvie, Lower School.

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

The Wiener's Circle

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"Nick and Sandy are great athletes, but when it comes to tennis they're extraordinary."
—Scott Craig, junior

Spring roundup: Soccer girls sail into Super Sectional fame

Team wins 1st AA Sectionals

By Dana Alfassa
Sports editor

Waving past Argo defenders on a humid Thursday, May 24 on Jackman Field, Forward Gabbie Clark, freshman, side steps past the final Argonaut player obstructing her from the goal and winds up for a shot. The goalie dives to the ground, turning her head to watch the ball slide perfectly into the net. Gabbie'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 climaxed a superior spring sports season.

Racking up a 19-3 Independent School League record as of Midway deadline, the girls' varsity soccer team soared 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 Maria, May 22 on Jackman Field, set the school record for wins in a season.

"We've always come this far and lost," said Forward Molly Schloss, cocaptain with Allie Brudney, Natalie Lewis and Erica Zagaja, all seniors. "Everyone got psyched for the game and between what we've done in ISL and Regionals 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, it's worked."

Placing 4th of 23 teams in the Thornwood Sectionals, May 18 in South Holland, the girls' track team qualified a record eight girls for State and finished 3rd in Conference.

"Last year we only had two girls qualify for State and this year all the distance runners were able to advance," said Katherine Zhou, junior. "I think our qualifying had a lot to do with the coaches making good decisions about who to put in what race. For some of us, if they had put us 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 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 wrote 'U-High' across their chests to support us. Zak Feldman



Photo by Eva Jaeger

Fiercely striding past a De La Salle defender, Sophomore Ciara Zagaja searches for an open forward, May 18 on Jackman field. The Maroons championed the Meteors 7-0, for the Regional crown and their 13th shut out.

in particular was really supportive and his qualifying for State in the 400 meter really shows the work he has put in."

Finishing with a 7-6 overall record (5-1 ISL), boys' varsity tennis hosted and won the State Sectional Tournament, May 18-19, with five players qualifying for State. Cocaptains Benne and Josh Rosner, both seniors, won the ISL doubles championship and advanced to State for their fourth consecutive year.

"We benefited from having really deep doubles teams this season," said Sandy Carton, junior. "Our first, second and third doubles helped us get close wins that decided a lot of matches. This year was different because Benne and Josh played first doubles instead of first and second singles. They had a terrific season and won almost all their matches. This gave Evan Levine and me an opportunity to play singles, which was good preparation for next year."

Meeting last year's ISL performance, the team finished 3rd in the ISL tournament behind Lake Forest Academy and Latin May 12 and placed 3rd in Conference behind the Caxymen and the Romans.

With an 11-man roster boasting four freshmen, the boys' varsity baseball team hosted and won their first Independent High School Association playoff matchup May 22 besting Phillips Academy 18-7. St. Ignatius, however, ended the U-High season two days later, defeating the Maroons 0-18.

"In the Phillips game we had our heads in it

from the start," said Designated Hitter Robert Strickling, junior. "We got out of the top of the first unscathed and got the bats going in the bottom of the inning. From there on we were just cruising."

"But against Ignatius we didn't communicate defensively and didn't get the bats started as early as we should have. We went down one, two, three in the top of the first inning and gave up seven runs that inning. We just couldn't pull it together."

The Maroons finished their season with a 5-13 overall record (3-7 ISL) and placed 5th of six in Conference.

Editor's note: The girls' soccer story in the last issue included incorrect information because, in violation of Midway policy, facts and names were not checked before publication. Junior Allison Feder is not a cocaptain, but Senior Molly Schloss who went unmentioned is. Three freshmen have played on varsity all season, two more have floated throughout. Gabby Clark should have appeared as Gabbie Clark and Ally Brudney should have appeared as Allie Brudney. Senior Erica Zagaja was not injured during the April 25 Latin game, but during the second Lake Park Tournament game, April 28. Our apologies to the team and our readers for these errors.

Rocket's return revitalizes hope for New York, at game's expense

THE ROCKET RELAUNCHES this week. Just three seasons after Roger Clemens 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. Wrestling with a 9-14 April record, the Yankees have suffered one D.L. stint after the next for their pitching staff, climaxing with rookie Phil Hughes' hamstring injury during a perfect seven inning outing against Texas last month.

The Yanks needed good news after getting off to a bad start. As the 52,553 fans at Yankee Stadium roared after hearing Clemens announce his return, few doubted that the Rocket's return may be just what the team needed to remain right in the mix for the division title.

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

Clemens currently stands 8th on 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 deserve 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 fledgling pitchers, many Astros players have said that aside from starting appearances, they rarely saw Clemens at all. For above all Roger Clemens is a mercenary.

Perhaps his quintessential opposite, Yankee Captain Derek Jeter, has devoted his career to denying the throne he deserves to fill. Despite a brief fielding slump in early April, Jeter has maintained a sunny outlook in the midst of his team's erratic start, leading the American League with a .368 batting average and 50 hits just three weeks ago.

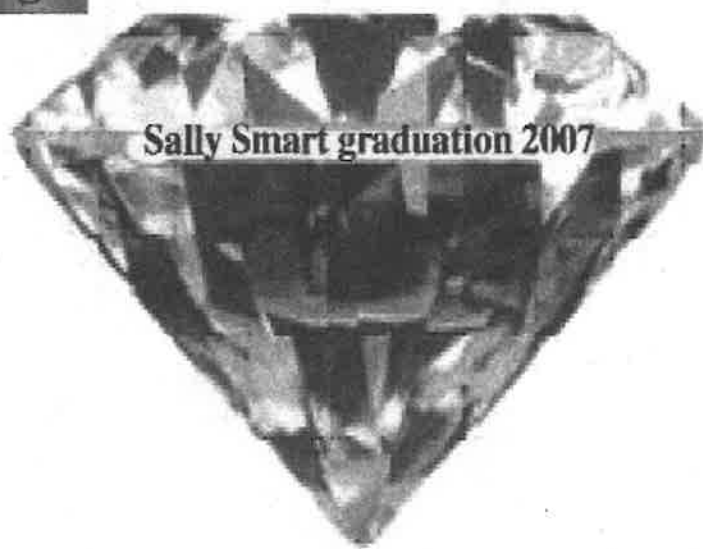
For my last column this year it seemed only fitting to write about the game I love above all others: baseball. As the manager of U-High's baseball team for the past three years and an avid MLB fan for longer, I consider baseball an essential part of my life. Yet in all the games I have kept score for the Maroons or made my way to professional ballparks, I have rarely questioned the game.

Only recently, as I find myself writing about players with alleged steroid usage setting records and players demanding special treatment, have I come to reevaluate 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 Yanks in a position to win, this columnist has once again found herself wondering whether the cost has become too high.



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Tour de Hyde Park



Photo by Zack Slouka

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.

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Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.-5p.m. ■ Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.