SET to offer five one-acts, sound-light show

By Nathan Bishop
Associate editor

Lights cast a golden glow on a woman seated in her New York City apartment. She is dressed in a robe and slippers. Her husband enters, cradling a box in his arms. He begins to talk to her but she does not reply. "Lost in space?" he asks.

David Ives "Long Ago and Far Away" will be performed with four other professionally-written one-act plays and a student-produced sound-and-light show during Student Experimental Theatre's annual show 7:30 p.m., Thursday-Thursday, February 24-26 in Belshard Theater. Tickets are on sale in the High School Lobby for $4.

Directed by Juniors Joe Boiervert and Kelly Kovacs, "Long Ago and Far Away" details the experiences of the couple, played by Seniors Victoria Rogers and Aaron Weiss.

"Long Ago and Far Away" is a study of a man and a wife who are moving out of their apartment," Joe said. "It starts with them having a conversation about the move. From there it gets weird. The wife goes back in time and decides she wants to stay there. The play is all about people trying to get what they want and what happens to other people around them when they get what they want."

Aaron says his character comes naturally because he doesn't express extreme emotions.

"The young wife starts getting real serious moving jitters and starts examining her life a lot," Aaron said. "Some very strange things start to happen involving time travel, suicides and disappearances. I play the husband. He's somewhat of a cynical New Yorker, he's very confused by his wife's behavior and is very calm and relaxed compared to his wife."

"It's probably stranger than some of the other plays; it's not as

Science Expo to take off like a rocket

By Emily Roberts
Midday reporter

Honeymoon bottle rockets will be launched on Jackman Field as students compete to make their rocket take the longest flight at the fourth annual Science Expo, 1-5 p.m., Saturday, February 28. The Expo will offer more than 100 presentations, inventions and demonstrations by students, teachers and parents spread out over three floors of U-High and two floors of the Middle School and Kovler and Suny Gym, with each High School hallway representing a different type of science.

Open to students, teachers and parents, the Expo includes new attractions such as a paper airplane contest in Belshard Gym sponsored by Middle School Science Teacher Mark Wagner and Science Jeopardy, a game of science knowledge and quickness hosted by U-High students, according to Chairperson Diane Snider, middle school science teacher.

Visitors can pick up programs in the High School Lobby. "There is going to be Science Jeopardy going on in a room during the Science Expo," Ms. Snider said. "Because it will be going on for four hours during the day, we want High School students to host the event. So like three different kids will host every hour."

One person may sign kids in as they arrive, someone will keep score of the game and someone else would make sure everything runs smoothly with rules. Everyone is invited; anyone can walk in and play."

To participate in the rocket contest, students may sign up to participate with Science Teacher Dan McDonald.

"It is going to be with rockets that are based entirely on the generation of carbon dioxide," Mr. McDonald said. "The goal is to see how far the rocket will fly outdoors and not just how high it can go."

"Students will decide how much baking soda and vinegar they want to put into the 20 ounce bottle which will be the actual rocket, in order to get the

Artfest opens with action

By Aaron Weiss
Midday reporter

Showcasing an exhibition of several fighting styles, the martial arts group Enso will battle during the Artfest opening ceremony in the Kovler Gym, 9 a.m. Thursday, February 21.

"My friend Christina Draganich overheard me talking about needing an opening ceremony and she suggested the group she trains with, Enso," said Artfest Committee Chairperson Devika Wor, senior.

"They're going to be showing a history of martial arts by way of demonstration, showing fighting styles like Cappoeira and Aikido. It's going to be very exciting and hopefully something the students can really get into."

Artfest will offer 24 workshops in six periods during the day. Workshops, all organized by students or faculty members, include performances, lectures and hands-on experiences.

Students who skip out on workshops they signed up for will receive a cut from the corresponding period's class according to Artfest Committee Chairperson Claire Beatus, senior.

"Attendance is our chief focus here," Claire said. "It's very important to get the entire school involved or else it won't really be a success. The whole purpose is to take a day to explore new art forms you don't normally get in school. It's just supposed to get you relaxed and to have a nice day."

Beverages from Caribou Coffee will be offered in the cafeteria and T-shirts can be purchased for $10 in advance and $12 during the day in the High School Lobby.

Among those U-High students performing is the Woodmen who will play both classic and modern folk rock, according to member Kevin Brunke, who will rock out along with Max Wagner and Sam Shapiro. All are juniors.

"We're going to be playing some home folk music, straight

presidental primaries in U-highers' eyes

The Iowa and Nevada Caucuses, New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries and Super Tuesday, February 5, are behind the candidates but remain points of conversation for U-Highers who campaigned for Obama.

looking inside

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Decision to drop APs by department

After almost two years of debate over the future of A.P.s, the faculty has recommended that each department decide whether or not to keep the courses.

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The truth of diabetes

Photo by Hanna Bolfin
For an U-High student with diabetes, the disease can become a part of everyday life.

the truth of diabetes

a photo essay

Photo by Hanna Bolfin
For a U-High student with diabetes, the disease can become a part of everyday life.
Faculty recommends departmental A.P. decisions

By Sam Frampton
Midway reporter

By April 11, faculty departments will have to tell Principle Matthew Horvat whether or not they will be making changes to their A.P. curriculum. This deadline comes after an unanimous vote at their January 6 meeting when faculty recommended that each department decide whether or not to continue A.P. courses. School policy requires faculty members to then seek approval from Mr. Horvat, Lab Schools Director David Magill and the Lab School Board of Trustees. The vote came after the Steering Committee began discussing a proposition in November. The Faculty plans to begin the review process this Spring and make any changes in the 2009-2010 school year, according to High School Faculty Chairperson Baker Franke, Computer Science Teacher. "The proposal was a collaboration by all members of the Faculty," Mr. Franke explained. "The Steering Committee proposed that all departments announce their decision at one time and outlined the protocol for making the change. Once we finalized it, it was distributed at the December 12 meeting. Permission that the decision should be made department by department because there are teachers that agree with A.P. curricula and teachers that don’t. If any departments are scheduled to drop the label, we will use next year as a time to prepare the Lab community. “We have to make sure everyone knows that advanced courses will still be offered and that we made this change with the well being of the students in mind.” Renaming advanced classes so they do not include the A.P. label can give teachers more control over the materials they teach, Mr. Horvat said. “Departments that drop A.P.s must discuss how their curricula will change,” Mr. Horvat explained. “They still must have their new syllabi approved.” Not using the A.P. brand name allows the teachers to decide what they teach. However, we will still teach advanced courses. “Teachers may disagree within their departments on the subject of A.P. curricula, but we decided not to have individual teachers decide for the sake of clarity on college transcripts.” Due to all the work it takes to drop the A.P. label, this is not something that we are going to revisit every year. It will be at least four more years before we have this discussion again.”
Major突破，深得学生的喜爱。该课程由Northwestern University的物理系教授Vincent Piccard和Midwest Highlights的记者Mary Birdsall联合设计和撰写。该课程将探讨从牛顿的万有引力定律到现代量子力学的物理学的基本原理。

此外，News 3还提到了学生对课程的选择。新闻中提到，学生可以选择参加各种课程，因为这些课程提供了丰富的学习机会。例如，学生可以选择参加音乐课程，因为这些课程可以帮助他们提高音乐才能。此外，学生也可以选择参加体育课程，因为这些课程可以帮助他们保持身体健康。新闻中还提到，学生可以选择参加科学课程，因为这些课程可以帮助他们理解科学概念。最后，新闻中还提到，学生可以选择参加语言课程，因为这些课程可以帮助他们提高语言能力。
Exciting Super Tuesday fires enthusiasm

By Alex Kleiman
Midway reporter

Strongly supporting Illinois Senator Barack Obama on Super Tuesday February 5, many U-Highers said they stayed glued to their TV sets until the wee hours watching the results come in. The primary races kept U-Highers intrigued start to finish. Many faculty members said they can't recall a previous election which engaged the student body more.

After attentively following recent debates, Freshman Joel Schaffner feels they reveal the candidates' true colors.

"I really think that the Republican primaries are especially interesting because there are no real front-runners," Joel said. "I wasn't expecting Baptist Minister Mike Huckabee to win the Iowa primary at all. I just can't see him being nominated to run in the general election because of his stance on the war and immigration.

"I've enjoyed the heated debates between Senators Obama and Clinton, especially on the topic of the economy. "Such intense debates show the candidates' true colors. I think that Senator Obama has excelled in the debates."

Unconcerned with the outcomes of the earlier primaries, Junior Mike Casey believes that the results of larger states with more delegates matters most.

"I really don't think that the early caucuses and primaries make much difference since everything has turned out so inconsistent," Mike said. "The bigger states like Cali early states like California who have more delegates will really make a difference, in my mind. No one person seems to be holding ground at the top.

"Since Senator McCain not only fought in a war, but was also a prisoner of war, I think he would make the right decisions regarding the war in Iraq and I think people recognize that.

"Please about a larger than usual turnout at caucuses, Sophomore Annelie Akaanmoah feels that younger voters are driving the election."

"I was very surprised that so many people attended the caucuses," Annelie said. "It seems like Senator Obama got a lot of the younger voters to come out, more so than any of the other candidates. When I was watching the results of the New Hampshire primary on the news, I was surprised that Senator Obama didn't win because so many sources were predicting that he would."

"Seeing the results of the primaries has gotten me excited to see who will run in the general election."

Not influenced by the Democratic debates, Guidance Counselor Camille Baugh-Cunningham finds Senators Obama and Clinton's arguing unnecessary.

"Debates can be tricky about what they choose to show you," Ms. Cunningham said. "They can be informative, but I don't let them guide my decisions. It's not to see candidates step out of their serious roles during debates, but this nonchalant behavior can also show their flaws.

"I would really like to see more cohesion between Senators Clinton and Obama, though, in such a historically significant election. Some of the conflict between them is very unfortunate."

Senior Eva Jaeger said she appreciated the Senator's sentiment in her emotional New Hampshire victory speech.

"Bill Clinton didn't win Iowa either, so I'm not too worried," Eva said. "When she started to tear up in New Hampshire, I really came to respect her. She seemed so genuine in her moment of weakness. If she were a man no one would call her 'not friendly' and for her to open up. She may not be as good of a speaker as Senator Obama, but I really appreciated her openness in that speech."

University Market Withdrawal

As a daily hot spot for after-school snacks, University Market provides the perfect remedy to wash away the sour aftertaste of a math test gone bad, or to cap off the feeling of elusive ecstasy after a math test gone pretty delightfully well. With the scintillating taste of tofu chicken or the classic feel of a Snickers bar against pulsating skin, University Market indulges your soon-to-be-conquered appetites with efficient means of stimulating tastes.

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NO, THIS student is not comatose but simply drifting into a deep, hallucinogenic sleep of University Market dreams. Waiting an entire day for school to end, Junior Sam Shapiro wistfully waits to satisfy his cravings.

U-Highers find campaigning in Iowa for Obama a memorable experience

By Rafi Khan
Midway reporter

"Doing the dirty work, work that no one else wanted to do but what eventually helped us win, was definitely one of the best experiences of my life.

Helping out in the Obama campaigns for the Iowa caucuses, Sophomore Amy Solomon reflected on the experience, which she shared with four other U-Highers.

From December 27 to January 4, Amy had been canvassing throughout Johnson County in freezing temperatures and making phone calls trying to convince Iowans to come to the Precinct 18 caucus and, more importantly, to vote for Obama. Most Iowans were willing to listen, but some would hang up or slam the door in your face," Amy explained. "I can understand their frustration because they constantly get so much pressure and attention to vote. I felt that it was really rewarding to find even one person after hours of knocking on door after door that I could talk to and convince to caucus for and vote for Obama."

"The Iowa caucuses represented an example of democracy at its finest, according to Junior Dan Troubetz. "When I went into one of the caucuses it was amazing because Barack, literally, had almost double the support of any other candidate," Dan explained. "After the first line up, a person from each of the groups supporting the candidates gave a speech, I didn't think anybody was phoniness, but when the lady for Obama spoke she went completely against his message."

"She attacked Hillary Clinton and John Edwards by saying that they were not good candidates and they would not do anything positive for the American people. I found this outrageous because the fact is that it was completely against Obama's campaign."

"So, sooner than later, all of the people who came in unsure about who to caucus for, immediately went to either Hillary or Edwards. I couldn't believe it."

"Being there, I realized that I was witnessing a true example of democracy at its best because it was the opportunity for your average American to have a large impact on the result of the caucus."

"And yes, I guess I could say that about all campaign volunteering but this was just a really cool example of it."

Other volunteers included Seniors Dan Hornung, Graham Salinger and Robert Strickling.
“Mr. Saiz keeps the class really exciting. He’s a really funny guy and brings a different style of teaching to Lab.”

-Michele Henderson, junior

**People**

**U-NIGHT MIDWAY ● TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2006**

**Calls from the Fire Swamp**

by Eric Cochbrane

**CHARACTER SKETCH CYNDY WEINER**

CLAD IN A GREY burton-down sweater and black patent-leather loafers, Science Teacher Francisco Javier Saiz de Adana effortlessly cradles a stack of physics books way too heavy for the average person as he strolls the third floor hallway. But then again, the average person doesn’t have a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Though he doesn’t broadcast his black belt achievement to his classes, students like his history who know him probably wouldn’t be surprised. Especially since he has yet to lose a student-teacher arm wrestling match.

But there was a time when he only dreamed of such accomplishments, Mr. Saiz said.

“I came from the village of Galanveta in the province of Alava in the Basque region of Spain,” explained Mr. Saiz, who is 46.

“My village is a very small farming community of 50 people. On the one hand it was wonderful to be in touch with nature growing up. On the other hand at times I was frustrated because I couldn’t do things I dreamed about doing like martial arts or playing the piano.

Those things were too far away.”

This frustration sparked a determination to study abroad as he became an adult, Mr. Saiz said. At 22, he made his first trip to the United States.

“I didn’t know much about the U.S., but I thought, I loved the mountains and I love the sun. I should choose Colorado,” he explained. "There I studied English for another three months in Denver before double majoring in meteorology and applied mathematics at the Metropolitan State College of Denver.”

After completing college, Mr. Saiz traveled to Ithaca, New York, for graduate studies at Cornell University, where he majored in Atmospheric Science. Finding a job after graduate school proved difficult, Mr. Saiz explained.

“When you are a foreigner, an alien, the first thing you need to do is get someone to sponsor you,” Mr. Saiz said. “You can’t just get a job anywhere. As an international student of a graduate school you have one year to find a job or you have to leave or become illegal. I wanted to, at least, find something stimulating.

“I wasn’t going to stay here just to stay here. A couple of schools were interested in hiring me but I didn’t feel they were the right type of schools.”

When he received an e-mail from Principal Matt Horvat offering him a job at U-High however, it felt right, Mr. Saiz said.

Mr. Saiz heard about the position last March at a National Association for Independent Schools convention in Denver.

“I had no connection with Chicago and it took me a while to decide what I was going to do when I was offered the job here,” Mr. Saiz explained. “Moving was tough. But you just move forward. You cannot live in fear.

“I just live one day at a time. If the situation becomes that I am forced to go back to Spain then maybe that is what is meant to happen. When you live abroad long enough it’s almost like you become a foreigner everywhere, even in your own country. But that is not a bad thing after all.”

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**Photo teacher spotlights students**

By Mitchell Stern

Midway reporter

Hunched over in an old wooden chair with her arms in her lap, 8th grader Leslie Sibener sits as Photographer and Photojournalism Teacher Lisee Ricketts snaps a photo with her Hasselblad Manual camera.


“I get to know my students well before I ask them if I can take their picture,” Ms. Ricketts said, “If they say yes, I send a permission slip to their parents to photograph and publish their pictures.

“I set up a time during school when we both are free to take the picture. And I find an interesting place inside the school to take the picture in.”

“T’ll look at the collection of pictures and then I’ll choose the picture that grabs my attention the most. Then, later, I’ll put the picture on my website for anyone to see.”

Ms. Ricketts plans to add to the portfolio for 10 years, coordinating the time with the idea and name of ‘13.’

“Once I’m finished with my portfolio in about 10 years I’ll have an exhibition in another 10 years to showcase it,” Ms. Ricketts said. “Then, around the same time as the exhibition, I plan to write a book about it: a coffee table book full of the ‘13’ pictures I’ve done.”

Priced at $650 each because of their platinum finish, Ms. Ricketts said the portraits aim to capture the student’s character.

“One picture I find especially interesting is the one I took three years ago of Nicole Massel in the courtyard,” Ms. Ricketts said. “It’s very reminiscent of Lewis Carroll’s ‘Alice in Wonderland’ in that she’s sitting with her hands in her lap within the environment.”

Taking pictures for her portfolio every other week, Ms. Ricketts said that making money isn’t the reason she puts her pictures on her website.

“I could care less about selling the photographs on my website,” Ms. Ricketts explained, “I really just want to show them to everyone else. If someone did want to buy a piece, they could e-mail me, where I would give him or her more information on purchasing it. However, it’s more about the recognition than the money.”

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Close-knit triplets are still individual in tastes, talents

By Graham Salinger
Associate editor

Without knowing the Brunke brothers, Kevin, Quinn and Kyle, you wouldn’t think they were related, much less triplets.

U-High’s only triplets, the Brunke brothers were born February 11, 1990. They are Lab School Lifers and reside with their parents, cat Slipperers and dog Jani in a four-floor, pink brick house near Oz Park on the North Side.

Dressed in colorful 1970s garb to match his closet covered with rock music idols, Kevin wears glasses and boasts the greatest height.

Often seen dressed in a gray sweatshirt, Kyle is the Midway’s business and ad manager, opinion columnist and reporter and writer for special feature projects.

Quinn, the oldest of the three, dons wrestling t-shirts and strikes his hair.

THE BROTHERS’ father Ken, grew up in Skokie and his voice projects with the flair of a radio personality. The brothers’ mother, Lisa, has been a stay-at-home mom since the brothers were born. Her long, flowing blonde hair is reminiscent of Kevin’s favorite decade. The parents say they didn’t quite know what they were in for when they found out they were having triplets.

“When we learned that we were having triplets, it was the first time I saw my husband speechless,” said mother Brunke, who grew up in Long Grove. “When Quinn, Kevin and Kyle were babies, I worked hard at establishing a schedule so they would all eat and sleep at the same time. Otherwise there would have been complete chaos.

The room was complete chaos. It was difficult to prepare for the arrival of the brothers, explained father Brunke.

“When Kevin, Kyle and Quinn first arrived it was sort of a blur,” he said. “You just had to experience it and it was hard to have much of a plan beforehand. But the main thing we wanted to do was make sure that they grew up as individuals and is not just seen as the triplets.”

KEVIN, ALONG with Jaron Max Wagner, has organized an assembly paying tribute to the late 1960 U-High graduate Paul Butterfield, the lead singer of the Paul Butterfield Blues Band, for tomorrow. He said that growing up as a triplet means never a boring moment.

“In living the same house has its quirks,” Kevin explained. “One time I came out of the shower and was washing off my face with what I thought was a towel, but it turned out to be Quinn’s underwear. That was pretty disgusting.”

“When I was about 8, Kyle took one of my stuffed animals and chased him all over the house. We finally ended up in front of a window and I pushed him. He fell back into the window and the toy flew shattered into pieces. The worst part of it was that our parents did not let us watch ‘Rocky’ that night. Fortunately, that was it and we weren’t grounded.

“Our parents aren’t the type of parents who ground their kids. As long as we knew what we did wrong, and won’t do it again, there is no reason to be grounded.”

JOCELYN, QUINN, who started U-High’s Pro-Wrestling Club with Senior Aaron Weiss at the end of November, bragged about being the oldest of the Brunke triplets.

“Being older is stimulating,” he said from his room, which Kevin jokingly said stinks, filled with his DVD collection and weights spread across the floor. “I have been in the world for more minutes than anyone I know. I can tell you more things than they do. We are pretty much the opposite of each other, we have different looks, levels of attractiveness and personalities.”

Kevin likes reminiscing about his childhood years by watching family videos of his brothers, he said.

“I love watching videos from when we were 5; our dad used to video tape every day. The videos range from our birthdays being celebrated in the lower school, to all of us playing the recorder,”

One of my favorite videos was of our grandpa playing the harmonica and tap dancing and then playing basketball with one of us which was hilarious because that’s just what my grandpa was like. It makes me miss him, but they are great memories.

QUINN SAID he loved putting on plays for relatives with his brothers when they were kids.

“We used to put on plays for our grandfather on Sundays. We would re-enact Jerry Springer with stuffed animals; we called in the Mikey show. The stuffed animals would end up getting in fights and Winnie the Pooh, we called him ‘big pooh,’ would play the bodyguard.”

Interests in music and activities have changed since they were kids but tight brotherly love still exists, said Kyle as he walked past a hallway to his bedroom.

“One time I put a hat on Kevin’s head, covering his eyes, and he accidentally walked into a radiator. Kyle said, “Blood started coming out of his head and we had to rush him to the hospital. He received a nasty scar on his forehead that I still mistake for a wrinkle.”

“I like graphic novels, Kevin likes wrestling and Quinn likes music. Our interests have drastically changed but I would probably go crazy if Kevin or Quinn were not there. I’d end up talking to myself;”

18 make scholarship finals

Eighteen U-High seniors have been designated Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition and two have been similarly designated in the associated National Achievement Scholarship competition for outstanding African American students.

Selection was based on standardized test scores, cumulative involvement, counselor recommendations, grades and essays.

All Finalists are considered for scholarships; winners will be announced this spring and summer.

U-High finalists are as follows:

"I don't think your father should have control over your sex life, only to give it over to your husband. It's strange to me."
—Adrie Epstein, junior

Elegant in a white plum-like gown and holding a white rose, a smiling teenage girl slowly walks up to a large cross and places her rose at its base.

Earlier that night, girls eagerly filled into the Poria Holiday Inn ballroom extravagantly decorated with balloons and streamers. But instead of teenage girls dressed awkwardly in tuxedos escorting these girls, their fathers guided them past a sign that read "Purity Ball 2007."

FORMED 10 YEARS ago in Colorado Springs, Colorado by the Christian ministry Generations of Light, Purity Balls currently take place in most states and are growing in popularity. A typical Purity Ball consists of a classy dinner, waiting, an exchange of vows between father and daughter, the daughter giving a gold key to her heart to her father and ends with the placing of the rose. By placing the rose next to the cross, the girl pledges her commitment to remain pure through abstinence from premarital sex, according to a recent story in the Chicago Tribune.

Subsequent letters to the Tribune's editors criticized Purity Balls for the sexual overtones associated with the fathers' involvement in the girls' pledge to remain abstinent. But for Mrs. Janet Hellige, a volunteer at the Poria Christian Center who organizes the center's biannual Purity Ball, such opinions root from a lack of knowledge.

"Now there are some Purity Balls where girls do pledge their purity, but we don't do that here," Mrs. Hellige explained during a phone interview.

"We're also extinct the fathers to be the men God intended them to be. If the father is pure then the rest of the house will probably follow. We're asking the dads to step up; it's their job to hold the key to their daughter's heart. When a father is present in the life of a daughter, she isn't likely to look for affection outside of her home. But when a dad is missing, she looks for someone else to tell her she's beautiful."

WITH 88 PERCENT of girls who take a pledge of abstinence engaging in premarital sex, according to a recent ABC news story, Mrs. Hellige knows there is a chance her two teenage daughters will end up breaking their pledge.

"The media thinks we don't know about safe sex, STDs and HPV shots," Mrs. Hellige continued. "But we do know about all those things. I would be a bad mother if I didn't tell my children about them. I don't know if they will both remain virgins. The media is playing into something they don't know much about. The picture is so much bigger."

While taking part in a Midway-organized group interview about Purity Balls with four other U-Highers, Senior Victoria Rogers expressed how she feels parents shouldn't press their values on their children.

"I think it's bad if you're raised to be something," Victoria said. "It's hard to break out of a tradition everyone around you is doing, but I still think it is possible to break out. For example, I had a first communion and was baptized. But once I started to practice for my Confirmation, I decided that I didn't want to do it anymore and quit."

IN RESPONSE TO Victoria, Sophomore Julia Baurd explained that a girl's age at the time she attends a Purity Ball has an effect on whether or not she will go through with her pledge.

"If they're young, like 9 or 10, they're not going to rebel," Julia said.

"At that age, if my dad told me to do something, I'd do it, because I was still under my parent's wings. The older girls probably don't care as much about what their dad says, so that will make it easier to rebel."

Even with parental pressure, Senior Chrisy Delicata feels the decision isn't about rebellion, but comes down to whether or not a person believes in remaining abstinence.

"Either you subscribe to it or reject it," Chrisy explained. "My brother went to Catholic high school and I remember he would come home and we'd laugh about what happened in sex ed class that day. While they were teaching about abstinence, most of the kids in the class had already had sex. I think society has put a lot of pressure on girls. When you get to a certain age you're expected to have sex with someone."

Dealing with peer pressure to have sex can be just as difficult for teenage boys as it is for teenage girls, believes Junior Joe Boisvert, who did not participate in the group interview.

"In today's society, guys are pressured into making a move on a girl, if you don't you're called a 'pussy' or even a 'baggie'," Joe explained. "For girls, losing your virginity seems to be more sentimental, while with guys it's more about getting over it with before you go to college."

"It's harder for girls to say what they really expect sexually from a guy. Despite the guy being left not knowing what she wants, the girl is also put in a terrible situation."

ESCAPING SOCIETAL PRESSURES can prove difficult for some young adults, feels Professor Deborah Nelson, director of the Center for Gender Studies at the U. of C.

"We live in a society where a fantasy making machine goes 24/7," Ms. Nelson said. "It's an inciting desire and legitimizing sexual activity. There is still a pretty strong double standard in sexuality. You can't escape the fact that women are capable of bearing children. One anthropologist has said that girls are exchanged like clams or cows. It is very difficult to dialogue the common feeling that a girl that has a lot of sexual partners is 'dirty'."

Purity Balls have become a way for a certain group of people to fruitlessly attempt to change common notions in society, according to Ms. Nelson.

"The problem in these communities is that they're trying to create a new aspect of purity," Ms. Nelson said.

"You can't change the context in which you're raised. Think of how terrible it would be for a girl that has attended a Purity Ball to succumb to desire and engage in sexual activity. Imagine the shame she would feel."

"These type of movements don't want to live in the world we have. Now we don't have a perfect world, a lot of the media views women as nothing but their bodies. But you can't wish away sexuality. You can't count on people, in the heat of passion, to think about the consequences."
U-Highers trek to D.C. to immerse in national world affairs conference

By Rohini Tobacakwala

Representing the only high school, 25 U-Highers were to attend the World Affairs Councils of America National Conference in Washington D.C. last Wednesday-Saturday. The delegates returned home after Midway deadline; a follow-up story will appear next issue.

History Teachers Paul Horton and Andrea Martonffy and English Teacher Catharine Bell chose the delegates out of 40 applicants. Each wrote an essay explaining why they wanted to participate in the conference.

Sponsored by the World Affairs Councils of America, a national organization that supports 87 local foreign affairs councils, the conference focused on "U.S. or U.S. and Them: Foreign Policy and the Next Presidency.* Students were to attend panel discussions at the J.W. Marriott Hotel, where they were lodged as well as briefings at the National Press Club.

"For the past seven years, I have gone to the conference every year," Ms. Martonffy said. "And, then I thought how wonderful it would be for kids to be there because they would be sitting right where change is happening. The conference committee told me they had 50 student tickets total. The other 25 were given to college students from various places around the country. "We expected to attend a wide variety of panel discussions such as 'Iraq and Beyond,' where retired U.S. Army General Barry McCaffrey was to discuss how the next president should deal with the war in Iraq. In addition, we were also scheduled for a panel discussion, 'The Effect of the Media' led by USA Today, Newsweek and CBS News journalists, on the effect the media has on foreign policy and the next presidency."

After returning from the conference, the delegates may arrange an assembly continuing the discussion from the trip.

"We hope to have an assembly that will deal with general political questions regarding the upcoming presidential elections," Ms. Martonffy said. "Kids who are working on various campaigns and everyone on the trip will report to the school as a whole on matters we learned at the conference."

Students who attended are as follows:
- Senior Emily Crane
- Junior Emily Biereck
- Karyn Gruberg
- Julianne Hans
- Evan Pieters
- Kyle Scott
- Rachel Koninseberg
- Jynah Soh
- Matthew Sauer
- Don Thimbelt
- Dorton Williams
- Sophomore
- Alby Frey
- Jennifer Clark
- Mendie Miszyk
- Isolde Prince
- Bill Shubin
- Brendan Adrian Albinus
- Henry Bergman
- Frances Brown
- Amir Heydari
- Kamperpoterova
- Robert Mayee
- Joseph Philippsen
- Ben Potente
- Michael Shumsky

Fall in love with your hair!

Photo by Ramsi Dresnec

AFTER A LONG DAY at school, Junior Sophie Ortel ventures to Hair Design International, just minutes away from U-High, to get the perfect hair-style.

This Valentine’s Day, start loving your hair at Hair Design International. With the help of our expert stylists, your hair can have the cut, color or style you’ve always dreamed of.

Hair Design International
1309 East 57th Street
(773) 363-0700

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

“It has been a joy to watch the delegates develop a deeper understanding of foreign policy,” Ms. Martonffy said.

THE ONLY Leap Day babies at U-High, Sophomores Gabby Clark and Oliver Ellenbaum leap toward their 4th birthday, February 29.

Leap Day sophomores to become ‘4 years old’

By Raj Khan

Midway reporter

"People used to make fun of me for only being 3, but I didn't care. With his birthday approaching February 29 Sophomore Oliver Ellenbaum said he doesn't mind that he's only turning 4.

For most U-Highers, celebrating a birthday happens every year and comes and goes. But for Oliver and fellow sophomore Gabby Clark, this year marks only their 4th, something they share with rapper Ja Rule and Pope Paul III whose birthdays also fall on Leap Day.

A day added every four years to keep the Gregorian calendar in sync with the Earth’s orbit, February 29 also became a traditional opportunity for females to propose marriage to males.

That tradition was echoed in Sadie Hawkins Danes at high schools and colleges, named after a man-hunting character in the comic strip Li’l Abner begun by Al Capp in 1937. Sadie Hawkins Day in the strip occurred each November but many of the dances came in February.

Curfew idea doesn’t sail here

By Tom Stanley-Becker

Mayor Richard Daley’s January 8 proposal to extend Chicago’s youth curfew in response to the existing crime problems seems unnecessary to some U-Highers and faculty.

Youths under 17 would face arrest if found outdoors after 10 p.m. weekdays and 11 p.m. weekends if the City Council adopts Mayor Daley’s proposal.

At a South Side news conference, Mayor Daley cited the murder of 24 public school students last year to support raising the existing curfew by one hour.

The change would be insignificant and an intrusion on students’ and parents’ autonomy, believes Student Council President Dan Horvatz, senior.

"6 p.m. o’clock on a weekend seems a little ridiculous," Dan said. "The point is people should be able to be mature. Parents and kids can make the decision as a family. There is no reason for the city to make the 11 o’clock curfew. 11:30 is not really different from 11.

"There are plenty of U-Highers who go out at 11 and even 11:30. School-sponsored events often end at 10:30 or 11, so depending where kids live they could be getting home later. It seems that these curfews are hard to enforce don’t make much sense."

While the new curfew will continue to accommodate school sponsored events, U-Highers being picked up by the police could prove a possible consequence of the proposed law, according to Principal Matt Horvatz.

"If kids are out past curfew, they could be picked up by the police," Mr. Horvatz said. "If a kid is going to a late night movie, the curfew would be a drag. You were out there doing something you should be able to do and then you could get caught. That would be tough.

"When a student is at a school-sponsored event, they are allowed to be out past curfew but if not no. I do not know how the rule gets enforced since how does the Police Department know if a person is coming from a school event or from somewhere else."

(Also see editorial page 12.)
Cheese + Fries ≠ Cheese Fries
(necessarily...)

Just because cheese can be served with fries doesn't make them cheese fries. At The Wiener's Circle, though, you get what you pay for.

Enjoying an anxiety-free snack, Senior Becca Foley dives into her favorite combo of hot melted Cheddar cheese and crispy, salted fries. Becca knows that she can count on The Wiener's Circle for serving up perfect dishes every time, avoiding disappointment and hassle. Oh, and there's free parking in the back...
By Amanda Pappas
Editor-in-Chief

Browsing through the aisles of Walgreen's on Illinois Street and Columbus Drive in Streeterville, Seniors Kyra Linder and Stephanie Holmes can't help but stare at the bold bright yellow headlines splashed on the magazines People, Us Weekly and the National Enquirer. Instantly, Kyra grabs all three, two of which have pictures of Britney Spears' distraught face on the covers, and heads straight to the register. Once returning to the frigid January air, Kyra rips open the plastic bag and pulls out the magazines to analyze the covers with Stephanie before her fingertips freeze.

Premiering in 1962, Confidential magazine, one of the first tabloid magazines devoted to the misadventures of celebrities, changed celebrity reporting and gossip forever, according to a British Broadcasting Corporation documentary. At its peak, Confidential's sales reached nearly four million, but folded in 1969. Later, supermarkets started making space around their checkout stands for new publications like People, starting in 1974, then later Us Weekly in 1977, based on the demand for stories about celebrities.

Although some details contradict each other, the general angles of the stories in magazines like Us Weekly and People remain true. Though some magazines publish more controversial topics than others, few face lawsuits because they equip themselves with top legal representation, according to CNN.

Often altering photos and dramatizing stories, tabloids, a cheaper type of publication, face far more legal issues. Typically containing four or more headlines cramped onto a single front page, tabloids are generally unstapled and assembled with thinner paper.

Starting her subscription to Star magazine, a popular tabloid, a year ago, Kyra said she feels she'll never be able to stop reading it.

"Star magazine is my favorite tabloid," Kyra explained. "As soon as the magazine arrives in the mail, I sit down and read the entire thing cover to cover, even the ads. If I don't get a change to finish them at home, I bring them to school and read them during my free periods or sometimes even during class.

"Once I started reading the magazine almost five years ago, I haven't been able to stop. It's almost like an addiction. A lot of the times, I read the magazines with friends and discuss every photo and everyone's flaw in them."

Avoiding magazines and tabloids completely, Senior Muneeb Hai believes society should focus around a different group of people.

"I think people just like to know about the lives of others and reading about celebrities is the easiest way to accomplish that," Muneeb said. "To be fair, it's not even only Americans. The entire world is fascinated by celebrities too. For instance, my mom is and was very interested in Princess Diana. It seems like Great Britain is fixated with celebrities just as much as we are.

"The problem is that the people our society chooses to focus on are celebrities who aren't really doing anything. I think it would be much more interesting if instead of celebrities, the tabloids and magazines focused on cooperate or political people. That way, people could maybe actually learn something."

Disturbed by the invasion of privacy, Freshman Jeremy Woo said the paparazzi, an Italian word for photographers who take candid photographs of celebrities, should be less aggressive.

"I really don't like magazines like Us and People and quite frankly find them ridiculous," Jeremy explained. "Most of the time, I wonder if anything in them is actually true. I can side with the celebrities because they've just trying to live their lives. I think it's sad that people actually enjoy looking at pictures of celebrities walking or doing everyday things like eating."

Tabloids and gossip have also become accessible through the internet and updates to cell phones. Following Britney Spears' story closely, Senior Angie McNeil said she'll do anything to get the inside scoop of Britney's life.

"There's something I love about drama and gossip and Britney match for both of those," Angie said. "Ever since the beginning of last year, she has caught my eye and I have been following her ever since. Something about how people are so messed up makes me feel better about myself. Although a lot of Britney's stories and pictures are disturbing, the most outrageous one was by far about how she almost killed herself and her children.

"The cherry on the top was when a picture was taken of her with a bald head flicking off a paparazzi. Normally I'll make a trip to a Walgreen's by my house once a week to pick up magazines but if I can't make it, I catch up online. Youtube is always a great site to see videos of her."

We asked six U-Highers...

"I think Britney is crazy. I can just imagine her going to party after party doing anything and everything that comes her way. After one of those parties, she's going to just end up dead from all of the alcohol and drugs she does."

—Jack Potter, freshman

"I hear all these sad stories about Britney but I think she's going to end up happy. I think she's going to find a good guy and have another kid or two."

—Lena Dunn, junior

"Everyone needs just love. Britney loves. She's crazy and has had enough. I'm completely sympathetic at this point. She obviously needs help and needs to take some time and grow out her hair."

—Fair Langdon, junior
Q/A
What's the most ridiculous thing you've seen in a gossip publication?

"The most disturbing thing I've seen in a tabloid was a photo of a celebrity tripping at a loved one's funeral. It really crossed the line."
- Mike Casey, junior

"The strangest thing I've ever seen was the idea that there was a potential link between Paris Hilton's tape and 9/11."
- Frank Firke, senior

"The grossest thing I've ever seen was Paris Hilton's private area covered with a a star the magazine added."
- Gabby Knight, senior

Who Wore It Best?

Nate Wise 49%
Eva Jaeger 51%

THOUGH THE school library doesn't specialize in gossip magazines, when U-Highers find time to relax, some occasionally resort to its comfortable chairs to catch up on celebrity news with their own copies. Getting their gossip fix, Anisha Sisodia and Jackie Robertson join Vicki Tsay and Alex Zimmer to read OK! and People during a Thursday double lunch. Entranced by Britney Spears and her life, Alex and Vicki can't help but want to know more while Jackie and Anisha check out fashion tips.

What will happen to Britney Spears?

"I think she is bound to have a comeback. So many bad things have happened to her that it just seems right that she's going to get back in action and be the same Britney she's always been."
- Hill Thomas, freshman

"I think Britney will become a born-again Christian because she seems to be completely out of her body right now and maybe she has multiple personality disorder."
- Liz Mousana, senior

"Britney is definitely going to be forced to go to rehab again, which will force her to abandon her family and friends, who really need her in their lives."
- A.J. Drake, freshman
SAY WHAT?

“Cupid” Bump

ANGIE MACIEL,
senior: No. I would not call it my Valentine. You're cute, but I'm not a man that can drive.

RAPHICUENDO,
senior: Well, the age difference would kind of embarrass me. But, I guess since I haven't really gotten any before, I'll think about it. It would only be a good idea of feel sorry for and cause I want a lot of chocolate and flowers.

RICHARD TOMLINSON,
junior: Of course it would, as long as we can go on a magical date together and then walk together under the moonlight. It would be a great start to a magical relationship.

OLIVER ELEFANBAUM,
sophomore: Now man I don't roll like that, but I have heard of it. I think I possibly hook you up with.

JULIAN DU BUCKET,
class: no, i'm not into that kind of thing.

10-second editorials

MOVING FROM Rockefeller Chapel to Mandel Hall, last month's Dr. Martin Luther King assembly has been heralded as among the best. The location, though, wasn’t a make or break difference.

Instead of inviting a guest speaker to talk about Dr. King and what he meant to America, the Student’s Association invited Ms. Jewell Willis Thomas, former U-High Dean of Students, to speak about the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. With the 50th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine’s integration of Central High School last September, the timing was perfect.

By placing an emphasis on how nine courageous African-American students ignored death threats in the name of education, the assembly showed how much young people had to endure for a good education.

THE SHOW must go on.

That is the spirit of the U-High Dance Team, directed by Varsity Coach Allyson Ratliff and Assistant Coach Sarah Nelson. At a December home game versus Holy Trinity High School, the team did not have the music for a new dance and much to the crowds' unhappiness couldn’t perform its planned hardware.

After the game, the crowd’s cheers were answered as the team performed in front of an uncontrollable, but happy, crowd.

So keep your cheers handy, because we need to support our show, that signify that the team has evolved from halftime entertainers to part of U-High’s spirited identity.

HALLELUJAH. A couple of deserving

EIGHTY kilometers an hour, the American Civil Liberties Union cited federal crime statistics showing that most youth crime occurs before a curfew in the afternoon. Striking down a city curfew law as unconstitutional under the First Amendment, the New York Federal Appeals Court ruled that the “right of free movement is a vital component of life in an open society,” both for juveniles and adults.

And though the U.S. Supreme Court upheld drug testing for high school athletes, Justice Sandra Day O’Connor dissented that the tests violate the Constitution because they represent an “intrusive bodily search.”

Organizations like civil liberties organizations and the U.S. courts. Against the trend in other states, Illinois already moved back to tougher restrictions on teen driving. With the National Highway Safety Administration reporting that more than 6,000 teenagers die in car crashes annually, Illinois banned 16- and 17-year-olds from driving between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between 11 p.m. Saturday through Sunday.

For the first year of driving or up until age 18, only one passenger under age 20 may ride in the car (excluding siblings). For U-Highers, the new measures mean that soon it could prove riskier to walk the dog at night in the city of Chicago. Now, if driving with two friends, the driver could end up under court supervision. Next fall, athletes may have to stop in the bathroom to prove they have a license.

Similar measures in other states have drawn criticism from civil liberties organizations and the U.S. courts.

LETTER FROM COLLEGE ALLANA TACHAUER, 2007

College is what you make it, no experience needed

(Editors note: Allana Tachauer is a freshman at the University of Illinois at Chicago. This column is the second in a series from Class of 07 members about their college experiences.)

WALKING INTO the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Student East Center along with hundreds of other students every morning, I look around straining to identify just one other face. Sometimes, if I’m lucky, a familiar face pops up among the crowd (usually recognizable from a previous encounter). But usually it feels as though I’m being thrust into an unfamiliar environment. Though UIC undergraduate school has more than 16,000 students, I still manage to feel like an outsider. I am lucky.

I was born in Chicago, the city of broad shoulders. With roughly 20 students in three of my classes and 100-125 students in my other two, I can easily get a word or two in. The trick in college, in my opinion, is choosing appropriate classes. Coming from U-High, I am used to everyone knowing my name and then some. Of course certain classes are required and cannot be avoided, but the rest is the student’s choice. Wanting to discuss books as well as write, I chose small English classes to complete most of my credits this semester. Even my other two classes, Sociology and Psychology Community, are relatively small and engaging. I only had one small class last semester, decided to take a break from the small class requirements and explore possible majors.

The UIC campus is huge and not nearly as much of a campus, taking away from the “normal” college experience I looked forward to as a senior. With only 15 to 20 percent of students living in the dorms, UIC is also a commuter school. This makes it a little tougher to meet people, seeing as you only have one real time to socialize in right before, in, or right after class, something that took me by surprise.

In fact, one may ask what keeps anyone around at UIC from the answer? Locating a place away from the heart of downtown Chicago, it is hard not to make excuses to stay. Born and raised in the city, the thought of not being here is almost alien to me. For now, it is just giving up a sense of community, something about U-High that terrifies me. With the city skyline every day. They always say there’s no place like home, and I, without a doubt, agree.

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U-HIGH MIDWAY
**FILM JULIE CARLSON**

**Performance worthy of a second Oscar**

EXPECT DANIEL DAY-LEWIS to go home with Oscar gold in 12 days at the Academy Awards for his role in “There Will Be Blood.” The performer scored his fourth nomination for Best Actor in a Leading Role and the film is up for seven other awards, including Best Director and Best Picture.

Opening at an 1896 silver reservoir in California, “There Will Be Blood” focuses on miner Daniel Plainview (Day-Lewis) as he accidentally strikes oil and discovers he can lucratively sell it. Despite his success, Plainview disgustingly secures deals using slick talk and his infant son H.W. (Dillon Freasier) to project a fake wholesome, “family man” image.

Thirteen years later, a mysterious stranger named Paul Sunday (Paul Dano) sells Plainview information about an unapped oil deposit on his family’s land in the upstate town of Little Boston.

Plainview and H.W. move to the small community and build a profitable rig there, after convincing the townspeople that they will benefit from his operation. Not lured in by Plainview’s promises, Sunday’s manicentral preacher brother Eli (also played by Dano) suspects that he may be stealing the Sunday family – and the whole town – out of millions.

Writer and director Paul Thomas Anderson (“Boogie Nights,” “Magnolia”) took risks with this latest film. He adapted the screenplay from Upton Sinclair’s 1927 novel “Oil,” confusingly cast Dano in two roles and juxtaposed authentic period costumes with a modern, high-pitched soundtrack. Somehow, every odd element just works.

This success can be credited to the actors, mainly Day-Lewis, who brilliantly portrays a man losing his ethics to greed. But even though Plainview descends to complete moral bankruptcy, Day-Lewis subtly gives the audience glimpses into the character’s humanity and it is ultimately hard not to feel compassion toward him.

Not many actors could pull that off.

So “There Will Be Blood” may not win big come Oscar night, but there will surely be blood if Day-Lewis – who won before for “My Left Foot” – doesn’t.

**MUSIC NATHAN BISHOP**

**Great album signals dawn of new musical reality**

PREPARING TO be pulled into deep, dark, psyche-delic new places. On Radiohead’s new album “In Rainbows” (Atoto Records), the British alternative rock band once again explores a new realm of its crazy and unbelievably inventive multilayered style. One thing definitively remains the same: they don’t sound even close to anything on popular radio.

Shocking the music industry, Radiohead, unsigned to any record company, released in “Rainbows” October 10 at inrainbows.com, where fans could pay whatever they wanted to download the 10-track album. The website has stopped the offer, but the C.D. hit stores January 1 and reached number one on the Billboard 200.

Packed full of frontman Thom Yorke’s amazing falsetto, fantastically strange and evocative lyrics, and innumerable instruments (the song “Reckoner” closes with a finger-cymbal solo), Radiohead has never been better.

On its last release, 2003’s “Hail to the Thief,” Radiohead experimented with more punky vocals and lyrics. “In Rainbows,” however, focuses on atypical eerie romantic ballads and songs that, as Spin magazine says, “embrace the claustrophobic loneliness of modern life.”

On the track “15 Step,” Yorke’s voice weaves through scattered eclectic percussion, guitarist Johnny Greenwood’s infectious riffs and pulsating beats. “Nude” features delicate guitar and drummer Philip Selway’s light touch with a crowning Yorke advising, “Don’t get any big ideas, they’ve not gonna happen, you’ll go to hell for what your dirty mind is thinking.”

In “Weird Fishes/Arpeggi,” a love song with perfectly repeating guitar and drum riffs, Yorke gently moans, “In the deepest ocean, the bottom of the sea, your eyes, they turn me.”

“In Rainbows” provides a breath of clean, fresh air. No weak tracks, no bland processed lyrics, no whimpering or screeching, just pure brilliance.

**OPINION KYLE BRUNKE**

**When the word ‘nerd’ is heard**

WHEN THE question morphed into an exca-
vation, he revealed his brained, conciousness, the blond, blue-eyed bomber of math and science almost shied away. He disliked his assumed inclusion within the “nerd” definition only for him, having come to terms with its stereotyped attributes. Even when reminded that he attests U-High, a place known for its demanding workload and extracurricular, where fans could entertain expectations, the student still hoped to serve all connections to his fellow minors.

Troubled with the constant worry of condemning himself as a narcissistic genius, he likened the in-
terview to a treasonous crime. And although U-High represents an open-minded melting pot overflowing with varying interests and hobbies, he risked scorn from those who found him his seniors’ annoying.

All in all, not all students can see past the intellec-
tual U-High blanket swarmed with advanced place-
ment courses, varsity sports and school clubs. This belief was never more prevalent than in his long, exasperated gron in the mention of…

“The word ‘nerd’? When I hear I think of someone who knows Klingon,” he said, “There’s a difference between someone who’s smart and someone who’s a nerd. People whose only friends are digital are nerds. I don’t play enough video games to be con-
 sidered one.”

The word ‘nerd’ can have negative connotations. There are many smart people who are pretentious. Perfectionists, for example, can never be satisfied with what they’ve done. ‘Nerd’ can also be used for a sense of pride. There’s a more positive image of them today, but I still don’t see myself as a nerd.

“At first glance, based on my academic interests, people classify me as something I’m not. They make premature judgements solely on what I find inter-
esting. I’m intelligent, so much more than grades. Was Albert Einstein smart? He got horrible grades, but he thought outside the box. That’s why the SAT’s are a bad measure of intelligence. The idea that intelligence can be reduced to a three or four digit number is just ridiculous. True intelligence is the ability to think uniquely.

“Some smart people try to fit in, but they’re the minority. Wearing contacts or trying on new clothes isn’t some form of acceptance. Trying to fit in de-
pends on an individual’s motive.

“People resent the fact that I do well on tests. If you tell them, they get angry about it. I’m sure there are people who find me annoying. There’s always some-
body. You can’t please everyone.

“I don’t think people envy me. Why should anybody envy me? I have idiots like you asking me these questions. I don’t want to be known as the smart guy. I wish people would leave it alone.”

**DINING MONA DASGUPTA**

**Taste of Japan in cozy surroundings**

MODERN INDUSTRIALISM meets Far East décor in the airy, bright and earth tone setting of Kamehachi. The Japanese favorite has five branches in Chicago, including one located at 240 East Ontario Street, at the east end of Michigan Avenue.

On his high ceiling, pipes sware to create an almost masterful piece of modern art that clashes perfectly with the palm trees in the corner of the large brown environment. A sushi bar in the far corner, raised platform seating and a large cock-
tail lounge and area for private parties, add to Kamehachi’s elegantly tran-
quil atmosphere.

Looking for a place to lunch on a freezing Sunday last month, my friends Van Miner, Dana Alfassia and I were delighted to dine at Kamehachi. After we were seated, our waiter offered us hot towels for our hands. But our hands were still frozen from the chilly day, so we ordered traditional hot green tea. Like the tea, most of Kamehachi’s offerings are delectable, classic Japanese options. The extensive menu includes noodle dishes, fish and meat entrees, soups and specialty sushi.

We all decided to begin our meal with miso soup, a hot soybean broth containing tofu and seaweed. Dana then ordered chicken teriyaki, served with steamed white rice and vegetables. The tangy chick-

en, like many of Kamehachi’s lunch entrees, costs $11.95.

Van went for shrimp and vegetable tempura and a spicy tuna roll. Sushi rolls range in price from $3.95 to $12.95, with individual pieces costing $2 to $4. I ordered a spicy California roll and shrimp temp-
ura. The delicate, deep-fried tempura roll was complimented with steamed rice and dipping sauce.

After our meal, we bundled up to face the bitter cold, at least happy that we were full with delicious food from Kamehachi.

KAMEHACHI: 240 East Ontario Street, 312-587-6600. 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Monday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m. – mid Friday – Saturday, noon – 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

**HE PLAYS a character drilling for oil, but Daniel Day-Lewis, right with Paul Dano, has struck gold this award season with “There Will Be Blood.”**

**Julie**

**Nathan**

**Kyle**
Boston diversity conference delegates bring ideas home

■ Revived club, possible school assembly among plans to raise awareness

By Ruqi Tang

Joining more than 2,000 high school students from American, Japanese and Indian private schools, six U-Highers selected by administrators and counselors attended the People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference November 29-December 1 at the Boston Convention and Exhibit Center.

The delegates were chosen from 14 U-Highers selected for their essays on the theme “Learning from the Past, Leading for the Future: Reshaping traditions.”

Sponsored by the National Association of Independent Schools, an organization of independent schools, PCC sessions featured speakers and offered networking opportunities for educators, while SSDLC engaged students in self-reflecting and cross-cultural activities.

MEETING HIGH schoolers from New York City and Los Angeles, Sophomore Antonio Robles realized how fortunate he was for his educational opportunities.

“Students were split into ethnic affinity groups,” Sophomore Antonio Robles said. “The Latino one talked a lot about the process of getting into college and getting a good education. Many students I met were from Harlem or southern neighborhoods near L.A., and they talked about their families being involved with gangs and themselves having to stay off the streets.

“Since most kids in the Latino group were on financial aid, we talked about how hard it is for Latinos to not only get a good education but to pay for it.”

“The discussion made me realize how privileged I was. It actually motivated me to do well in school because if I don’t, I feel like I’m letting the Latino community down.”

FOR JUNIOR Mila Davenport, listening to multicultural students openly discuss negative experiences changed the perception of her own life.

“From this conference I learned that I come from a much more accepting community and family than I had previously thought,” Mila said.

“I was awed by the sheer number of people who were victimized because of the way they looked. They had a lot to say about bad encounters they’ve had and the conference became an opportunity to pour out all their feelings.

“I feel lucky to have people who don’t judge me for who I am.”

Considering a diversity-oriented school assembly, Senior Lauren Stewart said, “This conference taught me how I can educate others about diversity and help people be less ignorant.”

Before checking in on November 29 at the Westin Copley Place for the People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference in Boston, from left, delegates Kiara Davis, Antonio Robles, Vanessa Ramirez, Lauren Stewart, Ruqi Tang and Mila Davenport admire the hotel lobby and prepare for the opening ceremonies.

“Just the ‘do’ to make him say ‘I Love You’

Love is in the air this month so make sure you look dazzling for that special someone by visiting us at 57th Street Salon. Change your hair with a perm, relax or a simple hair trim. Stop by and we’ll give you just the right “do” to make that special someone say “I love you.”

1444 East 57th Street
in Hyde Park
(773) 288-5757
Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-8 p.m and Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

“Past, present, future blend in contemporary Shanghai"

ON MY LEFT proudly stood neo-Gothic monuments redolent of 19th century British architecture. Turning my head, I was warped to the future: on my right sprouted lively skyscrapers surrounding the sleek Oriental Pearl TV Tower. Like other tourists, I was at the Bund, where two different worlds exist in China’s largest city: Shanghai.

The Bund was the first tourist hot spot I visited during my 20-day stay in China’s largest city, home to more than 18 million people. Flying 7,000 miles and enduring a 15-hour flight, my parents and I traveled to Shanghai over winter vacation for an SAT preparation class known for its intensive workload. The course was offered by New Oriental, a Chinese test preparation organization, and took place in a Shanghai hotel where students lodged in a roommate.

One of more than 60 Chinese students from other countries attending the class, my roommate was a Canadian girl from Vancouver named Vivian, who grew up in Nanjing, the historic capital of China.

My parents were accommodated in a nearby inn and went about touring the city themselves, only reuniting with me after my daily four-hour class.

On Christmas Day, Vivian recommended dining at Le Bo Lang, located in Yuyuan Bazaar. Despite the touristy atmosphere, my parents, Vivian and I marveled at ancient ponds and teahouses before entering the restaurant’s three-story traditional Chinese pavilion.

Flaunting lacquered oriental carvings and tree prints that embellished walls, the restaurant displayed an impressive guest list that included the Clintons, Fidel Castro, and Queen Elizabeth II. Yet Le Bo Lang’s food proved the main highlight of my trip. Ranging $8-30 a dish, our meals were fresh and authentic. My favorite was a cold appetizer served as a compact mound of thinly sliced Chinese vegetable peppered with aromatic herbs. After savoring every bite, I left the restaurant feeling pleasantly stuffed but not bloated with the usual greasy Chinese food.

As much as I enjoyed Shanghai and its food, returning to Chicago wasn’t all that bad: I was upgraded to first class and enjoyed a roomy flight back home.

“Filling the delegate dance was really fun because it had good music and lots of people. It was a relief from the intensity of discussions.”

—Kiara Davis, sophomore

FIRST PERSON RUIQI TANG

SURROUNDED by traditional Chinese buildings in downtown Shanghai, Ruqi Tang, right, her parents and roommate Vivian wait to dine at a famous Shanghainese restaurant.
“I am really excited about playing at Artsfest this year since we actually have a band with a drummer and a bass player.”

—Kevin Brunke, junior

CHECKING HER COOKIES, Kyra Linder will lead a baking workshop at Artsfest, Thursday, February 21.

Artsgest programs (continued from front page)

from the South,” Kevin said. “I’ve always had a fascination with folk music, you know? They’ve just fun songs. We’re going to play a mixture of folk and blues and maybe a little bit of modern stuff.”

The band Purble blends several musical styles, playing both original and classic songs and is associated to member Henry Bergman, freshman.

“No one else has an electric violin, nobody has red dreadlocks,” Henry said, referring to member Jon Pape, sophomore. “We just bring something that nobody else has. Every time we do a reggae song, we do a punk song. We’re always changing.”

While Senior Tom Brewer’s “Dumster Diving” workshop may sound unpleasant at first, the activity involves far more than just picking up garbage, explained Tom.

“We’re trying to explore the, you know, brutal underbelly of the Lab Schools,” Tom said. “We want people to see their own garbage, to make them see the landscape. We’re not going to ateal anything. It’s purely observational. The best way to understand people is to look at their garbage.”

Science Expo (continued from front page)

best chemical reaction.

“The intention is to keep all the pressure inside the bottle while screwing the cap on, which could have a hole at the top, then slowly releasing the pressure to get a steady reaction, making the rocket go further into the air.”

Having given his 9th grade Biology class a presentation about the way pain works, Freshman Daniel Traub intends to display a diagram about his presentation during the Expo (see photo from front page).

“I had a really, really, really bad pain and it got me interested in it just being around him when he talks about it,” Daniel said. “It presented to my class about the way pain works in the body and the small sensors that release pain through the body. Basically, when you get a pinch, chemicals go through a pathway in your spine up to two sections of your brain, which tells you that you are feeling pain. On the board at the Expo, there are going to be a bunch of images from my presentation to my class. The board will explain about what happens in your brain and spine when you feel pain.”

Among parent participants, Dr. Dan Margoliah, father of Junior Jonathan, will talk about birds and their songs to explain brain activity during sleep from his field study on modern neurobiology and sleeping habits in humans.

“I’d like to try to convey the way modern neurobiology allows us to see the connection between brain control and behavior,” Dr. Margoliah said. “It is incorrect to say that brain activity controls behavior, but it is also incorrect to say that behavior controls brain activity.

“One does not control the other, but rather that they are connected in some way. When you are sleeping, the brain is still active, in that case, not passive. When you are sleeping, you are still learning. It turns out that bird song learning is very useful for learning about how brain activity and behavior are connected.”

Student Experimental Theatre (continued from front page)

humorous.”

A first-time director, Senior Kristal Martinez considers her play, “An Ongoing Examination of the True Meaning of Life,” written by B.W. Steneck, a complex story about falling in love.

“A playwright wants to write a masterpiece,” Krystal said. “He’s struggling to come up with two characters and begin to develop their own personalities. He tries to make the two characters fall in love the way he wants them to, but they start falling in love in a different way than he wants without his help.”

Other plays are as follows:

“FERRIS WHEEL” — While riding a ferris wheel together, two complete strangers get stuck at the top and as they get to know each other they begin to fall in love. Written by Mary Miller.

“SCIENCE FAIR” — A group of fifth graders try to find a science fair project to win the fair. Written by Mary Miller.

“AMICABLE PARTING” — A couple prepares to get a divorce and decide upon their reasons for the separation is revealed. Written by George S. Kaufman, directed by Chrystal Long. Cost: David Wehr, Katherine Vokes, Griben Sisters.

“THE DOOR” — A nurse comes to an old couple, but for some reason the wife won’t let the nurse see the husband. Lies between this life and the next become mired. Very weighty unknown, directed by Cyditha Watze.

“SPRING IS BLOOMING” — A young man in a state hospital tries to find the strength to live again. Written by George S. Kaufman, directed by Chrystal Long. Cost: David Wehr, Katherine Vokes, Griben Sisters.

“ROUND AND ROUND AND LIGHT SHOW” — The Round and Round, which I am directing with Kristal Martinez and Andy Zick, will be very different this year,” said SET Board President Marisa Colacino. “We are going to be seeing a lot of light and a lot of dark and different sounds played in different locations. The theme is sort of a battle between good and evil. It is going to be two ninjas fighting each other. Usually we do dances for the Board and Light Show, but I’m trying to get out of that.”

Other SET Board members include Kendal, Joe, Cyditha, Kristal and Victoria.

New class will focus on Presidency

By Graham Salinger

Associate editor

A full quarter course covering the 2008 Presidential election will be offered to juniors and seniors next fall, according to History Department Chairperson Andrea Mortanly. The course, “The Presidential Election of 2008,” was approved by the faculty’s Curriculum Committee and then was approved by the faculty at its February 5 meeting.

The class will allow students to learn political science firsthand. While following the Presidential campaigns, explained History Teacher Cindy Jerrison, who will be instructing the course.

“It’s really important that people participate regardless of whether they are a Democrat or a Republican,” she stressed.

In class, we want to affirm our two-party system by encouraging students to get involved in the political process regardless of their party affiliation. Students will be encouraged to volunteer in a campaign, and we plan to invite a group of speakers with considerable experience managing various aspects of political campaigns.

“We’ll also be comparing this presidential campaign to some others so that students can get a broader perspective on the election process. We will likely go on a field trip, still to be determined, that will allow students to watch and participate in the process. We intend for the class to be interesting and thought provoking.”

Real Talk

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Dealing with Diabetes

Demanding disease can be lived with, but branches out with multiple dangers

By Robin Shapiro
Editor-in-chief

A waking to the rumblings of an empty stomach, Sophomore Andrew Cook is ready for breakfast. Just first be grabbing a hand held blood sugar test. After checking his blood sugar level, Andrew reclines for his diabetes pump and inserts the tube, through a needle, directly into his stomach. After an injection of insulin, Andrew grabs his breakfast and leaves for school.

Though Andrew is the only U-Higher known to have diabetes, nearly 20.8 million Americans suffer from the disease. Those people with the disease must regularly check their blood sugar level to make sure it isn’t too high or low. Eating certain foods, especially heavy sugars, may produce a drastic impact on one’s blood sugar level. How often people check depends on the type of diabetes they suffer from.

Types ONE AND TWO are the two major kinds of diabetes. Type One results from the body not producing insulin, a hormone that regulates the amount of glucose in the blood. The most common among Americans, type two, occurs when body cells ignore the production of insulin.

After his parents discovered his type one diabetes when he was age 4, Andrew said the best way he has cope with the disease is positivity.

“I got diabetes so young, I don’t remember a time I didn’t have it,” Andrew said. “It’s hard to explain. I think it would have been worse if I had gotten it now and had it change my entire life.

“But I haven’t noticed any problems it’s given me growing up at all. I mean, it definitely gets frustrating. If I have a test in the morning, sometimes that can be a problem. Having high blood sugar can take your focus away. It’s really just another thing you have to deal with.”

“I’m supposed to take the blood to sugar test before every meal, but I don’t really read in school anymore. I use to pack my lunch when I was younger, but I don’t anymore. I definitely felt out of place when I was a kid when other kids would have birthday parties and everyone would be eating something I couldn’t. It never got to me too bad, though. Of course I think about the future all the time, but I really don’t feel like that’s going to help anything, so I feel like I might as well just stay positive.”

“I think having low blood sugar is the most annoying. I usually feel tired and detached.”

Andrew, Sophomore

JUDGING what or how much he can eat for a snack during break, Sophomore Andrew Cook carefully measures his blood sugar.

U. C. Endocrinology Professor Lou Phillipson, director of Kovler Diabetes Center, said the effects of diabetes prove to be significant in all aspects of life.

“DIABETES IS very life altering,” Dr. Phillipson said. “I’ve had patients who did not sleep through a single night until their children were 10-12 years old depending how young the child develops the disease.

“The parents don’t sleep because they have to wake up at night to check the child’s blood sugar. The nurses, doctors, parents and teachers all must work together to help adjust to all the factors of diabetes. The blood sugar level can’t be too low or too high.

“Usually kids have type one. That means they don’t make their own insulin. And, in order not to die, they must take injections of insulin. Type two is very similar but the age of onset is later. Usually I see type two in people well beyond 35 to 40 years old. Sometimes it’s treated with diet, weight loss or pills, in addition to insulin. In type one, insulin is the first thing to do, but those others factors are clearly important.”

LEARNING HE had diabetes 12 years ago, Mr. Brasler said he made the disease a part of his life.

“When I got diabetes, my doctor told me it would be easy to live with if you don’t cheat and I took that to heart. My mother and grandmother became blind from the effects of diabetes. I made it a part of my life. It has to be the master of you. You can’t eat big meals but you have to eat small meals all day. You have to eat wisely. I eat a lot of fish, chicken, and veggies. I made up my mind to do it right. It’s great because I have the U. C. health care system. I have a primary care giver; a cardiologist, an endocrinologist, a podiatrist, a dermatologist, a group of eye specialists and even had a nutritionist. They don’t let me stray.”

Diabetes research is neverending. A new study shows that weight loss surgery may prove effective as a treatment for obese people suffering from type two diabetes, according to a New York Times article.

WANTED: HUNGRY OR FULL

Have you seen this man? Although his current whereabouts are unknown, witnesses attest that while studiously studying homework under intense stress and pressure, Junior Max Wagner spontaneously exploded in a pool of add-smelling smoke. A fellow student believed that Max suffered from lack of Medici made food. After discovering what a cheesy slice of Medici pizza can do for the body and soul, and how he had never been in the presence of its awe-inspiring radiance, Max apparently opted for a quick take out.

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“Find out if diabetes runs in your family’s history and be conscious of what you eat.”
- Mr. Paul Horton, history teacher

“Two U-High teachers, Mr. Paul Horton, history, and Mr. Wayne Brasler, journalism, have type two diabetes.”

“I found out I had diabetes about two years ago,” Mr. Horton explained. “I’ve learned to keep a healthier diet and to do constant exercise.

“The doctor scared me to death, I found out when I was getting other blood tests that day. He told me that if I didn’t lose 25 pounds, I would die. I completely modified my life and lost 30 pounds in a month or a half.

“When I first found out, I walked five miles a day. I changed my diet completely. I now check my blood sugar test only in the morning. I learned I can’t eat a lot at one time and to eat smaller meals.

“I eat a lot of protein bars and nuts. I can’t eat a lot of carbs; I basically avoid bread. I’ve gotten used to it.

“My father and my grandfather both had type one, so they had to take injections for six or seven years. They forced me to think about my habits as a teen.

“I stopped eating all sugars, so with dessert I really have to resist. Over time, real sugar just start to taste gross. Now all I eat are things with Splenda in it.”

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No sugar on it

Facts about Diabetes

Approximately 7 percent of Americans have some form of diabetes and nearly one-third of those afflicted are unaware.

Almost 250,000 deaths were caused by diabetes in the U.S. last year.

Last year, more than 20 percent of all Americans 60 and older had diabetes.

The American Diabetes Association
New laws steer teen drivers wrong way, say U-Highers

They're not sold on idea revisions will pay off in safety

By Andrew Sylora
Midway reporter

Annoying. Useless. Unfair. Many U-Highers dislike the revisions to the Graduated Driver License laws passed at the beginning of this year, spearheaded by Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White to reduce traffic crashes and fatalities among drivers age 16-20. Approved by Governor Rod Blagojevich August 20, the revised laws are in response to suggestions made by Illinois Teen Driver Safety Task Force. Created August 29, 2004, the Task Force, composed of legislators, traffic safety experts and law enforcement officials, hoped to find ways to reduce teen fatalities in motor vehicle accidents. The revised Illinois laws, among the strictest in the nation according to the National Highway Traffic Administration, include a 10 p.m. curfew for drivers age 15-17 on weekdays, holding a learner’s permit for nine months, and making teen driving records available for parents online. Most U-Highers said the new teen driving laws impose unfair restrictions. Sophomore James Phillips feels the laws unnecessarily delay the time needed to obtain a license. “It’s definitely the thing that’s making me just wait and get my license when I turn 18,” James said. “I mean, I’m not going to drive 50 hours in nine months and hold my permit for that long just for him heck of obeying these new laws. The old laws seemed to be successful in reducing the number of reckless teens on the road. If the law still works effectively, don’t fix it.” According to the Secretary of State website, teenagers who received their learner’s permit before January 1 still fall under the previous laws, which limited teenagers to holding their permit to only six months. Missing the old law by two weeks, Freshman Max Loy feels the new law is not fair for him and other new drivers. “It’s unfair for those who get permits right after the law takes effect,” Max said. “If we new drivers have to fall under these new laws, the state should really make sure all teenagers receive equal treatment, including those who got their permits last year.” Though disappointed by the new laws, U-Highers said they feel other issues also needed attention. Issues affected by the revised laws include Safe Ride programs, including one being planned for U-High, created by students to offer intoxicated or tired students a ride home from class events. Sophomore Loren Kole hopes that something will be done to help out these programs. “The fact that certain programs are being shut down because of the new program is troubling. It’s a total failure in my eyes,” Loren explained. “With the new restrictions, programs helping out fellow students from getting in trouble are in jeopardy.”

Science Teams ready to put preparation to test

By Alex Kleiman
Midway reporter

After five months of preparation, the 14 member Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering junior varsity and varsity teams will take their skills to the Regional competition Thursday at Kankakee Community College.

The Science Olympiad team will head to Regionals Saturday, April 7, at Benedictine University in west suburban Lisle.

“We’re always placed 1st in the competitions, so I’m not too nervous,” said Katherine Zhou, Worldwide Youth in Scieno and Engineering co-captain with David Xu. Both are seniors.

“But it’s never good to be too confident,” Katherine added. “We all go into a big auditorium to take our two 40 minute tests with almost no break in between. We find out our results about three hours later at a big ceremony.”

Model U.N. wins U. of C. awards

By Matt Luchins
Associate editor

Following a winning performance in December at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Model United Nations delegates headed to the Palmer House.

The U-Highers represented two smaller nations, Saudi Arabia and Grenada, at the University of Chicago conference, January 31-February 3.

“We took a lot of rookies to U. of C, to prepare for next year,” said President Jenny Harris, senior. “Besides that we wanted to prove to the U. of C. that we could do well with any country, in this case Saudi Arabia and Grenada, and that we really do put any country on the map,” referring to the MUN team shirt.

Awards from the U. of C. meet are as follows:

OUTSTANDING DELEGATES: Mansim Khatib, Hannah Solomon-Booth, Sydney Smolik, Amaya Adams, Maggie Carlson, Jason Harris, Janet Jinh, Muneeb Fatim
HONORABLE MENTIONS: Deraida Kukraw, Robert Meyer, Cassandra Yong, Malvita Jolly, Julia Solomon-Booth, Leonie Stilnen, Mark Wilks, Andrea Iannone

COMMENTS: Don Thurnau, Guilder Laake-Cook, Katherine Zhou, Sarah Wolf, Katie Girt, Sushil Krapogrovets.
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Heaps of snow didn’t stop U-Highers from trudging Cultural Union’s Formal Dance February 2 at International House. A raving crowd of 250 came out to pop lock and drop it to the tunes of disc jockey Wayne “Hustle” Hampton.

Cobalt blue and fiery red punctuated an evening of classic black and white and polka dotted waist-accentuating dresses. Though some girls opted to toss their heels aside while dancing, most sported patent-leather pumps with dramatic chunky heels. Many chose loose curls and natural waves, complementing the night’s care free spirit.

Most boys strutted traditional sport coats and ties while others dressed down in classic black and striped Poles.

Photos by Loren Kole

SINGING TO 50 Cent’s “In Da Club,” Nisha Duara, Natallia Khosla and Aoife MacMahon kept dancing to the beat even on the crowded dance floor.

KEEPING IT classy, Derek Chim-
pas and Inken Hoeller opt for head to toe black, except for Derek’s patent-leather accented sneakers. Like Derek, many boys sported sleek shades to complement their formal attire. Other boys kept it casual in loose-button downs, topping off their looks with baseball caps.

POLKA DOTS added a fun twist to Chrisey Delicata’s traditional little black dress. Tom Brewer looks polished in a white button-down shirt and skinny black pants.

HOMECOMING ROYALTY, from left, included Freshmen Vince Sanders and Sheba Nelson, Sophomore Lida Woo, Juniors Sophie Ortel and Tim Parsons, Senior Yoolim Kim, Sophomore Philip Kampf and Senior Rob Webber were absent.

MOVING TO “Crank That (Souler Boyz)” (top) Lauline Gough and Alexis Madura show off their skills.

FLAUNTING A vivid red minidress Aoife MacMahon rests with Homer Shew who looks fly in suspenders.

DANCEGOERS GROOVED to fast paced songs all evening. Not a single slow song was played all night. The crowd dance tightly packed while some teachers doing chaperons circled the group looking appalled.
**League champion basketball girls head into Regionals**

**U-High to host IHSAA play on home court**

By Matt Luchins
Sports editor

Taking home the Independent School League championship for the first time in two decades, girls' basketball starts the state playoffs as Regionals host at 6 p.m. tomorrow, in Kever, Kever, the winner of yesterday's Kenwood-Tilden game.

Featuring standout sophomore guard Christina Suh and the Kenwood Academy Broncos (15-3) were expected to roll past a Tilden team ranked last in their Section. Results came after Midway deadline.

Although anchored by heavily-recruited point guard Alexis Jenkins, junior, Maroon Coach Meghan Janda also credits the Maroon's 5-1-3 record to contributions from other players.

"Lucy O'Keefe takes some of the scoring responsibilities; she's averaging 10 or 15 points a game," Coach Janda said. "You never know with the rest of the team because someone else always scores 10 points. It has to do with the other team. If we find a weak player, we'll get the ball to the girl she's guarding. We also use our strengths to our benefit, we use our speed to get into transition and score easy baskets.

"Two weeks after back-to-back losses dropped the team's record to 2-2, a December 4 home victory over rival Latin sparked success, according to Coach Janda.

"I would say the turning point of the season was the Latin game," Coach Janda said. "It was the first time we beat them in 14 years, and it kept us undefeated in the ISL. After that we realized that we could beat anyone and we did, as we had a 6-game winning streak.

"Knowledge of fundamentals and tough defense propelled the team to its best season in recent memory, according to Assistant Coach Baker Franke.

"We spend half of practice making lay-ups at full speed, which really pays off," Coach Franke said. "All 11 girls can do that and it gives us a huge advantage. I also think that other teams have a hard time scoring against us, because we're an athletic team."

"Playing comparatively less talented teams during the regular season, Coach Franke feels the Maroons must ready themselves for an opponent with a quicker style of play.

"I think that the only thing we need to prepare for is a fast, athletic team that plays a full-court press," Coach Franke said.

"Some teams have tried to press us this season and have stopped after five minutes because we've burned them. But we haven't played a really athletic team yet."

Scores not previously mentioned are as follows:

- Latins, December 4, home, Victory 50-43.
- North Shore Country Day School, December 1, away, Victory 53-35.
- Howe-Dame High School, December 20, away, Victory 60-50.
- St. Scholastica, December 21, away, Victory 65-58.
- Luther North, December 22, away, Victory 57-56.
- Woodland Academy, January 8, away, Victory 58-28.
- Francis Parker, January 11, away, Victory 56-10.
- Timothy Christian, January 11, away, Victory 50-32.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 14, away, Victory 70-11.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 24, away, Victory 59-41.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 26, away, Victory 56-42.
- Latins, January 29, home, Victory 61-34.

In the ISL, Champions are:

- Madison Academy, February 2, away, Victory 59-43.

**Boy basketballers to push aggressive playing style**

By Denise Akumah
Midway reporter

Fast-paced, aggressive playing style will figure big as boys' varsity basketballers face Nazareth Academy, 6 p.m. today in Upper Kever.

Racking up a 12-9 record as of Midway deadline, the Maroons will utilize their up-tempo offense to champion the Racing Roadrunners, who defeated them last year, believes to Head Coach Troy Caldwell.

"We're more athletic this year than last year," Coach Caldwell said. "We're a faster team. I think our athleticism and up-tempo style will suit us fine. We just have to try better than we did last time. But if we play our style of game, aggressive defense, up-tempo offense, we shouldn't lose from there on.

"Steadily changing up defensive schemes will help confuse Nazareth, believe Zeke Upshaw, junior, co-captain with seniors Daniel Hornung and Derek Champsas.

"It's pride in our defense," Zeke said. "We have a lot of defensive packages like three-two zone, where our three guards defend free throw line extended and the two forwards defend the basket.

"This defense is meant to defend against good scoring teams and to protect our basket; one-three-one zone, which we use to put pressure on the team and force turnovers and man-to-man defense. We switch defenses a lot and try to confuse our opponents."

"Suffering a loss to Nazareth last year, j.v. needs to focus on prime defense and pay attention to its opponent's offensive strategy, believes Head Coach Marlo Finner.

"I feel that if we come out and execute and play our style of ball, we should be okay," Coach Finner said. "We concentrate on being a good defensive team and by that we are able to concentrate on containing other teams' offensive schemes.

"No other team in our Conference teaches the skill level we teach our kids. We have a good chance of winning our Conference and going to the j.v. Tournament. We should have the confidence in the 1 seed.

"Despite the departure of Coach Cameron Mitchell, who left for undisclosed reasons, the freshman teammate's close bond aided in a positive end of their season, according to Justin Alpeo.

"It went fairly well," Justin said. "We got into the swing of things in the second game of the season. It was fun for all of us because most of the players have not played on a team."

"All of us are good friends so it was especially fun for us to be on a team together. We all get to bond and build chemistry on our bus ride to away games. All of the players have improved since the beginning of the season. All in all, the season was fun."

Scores are as follows:

- North Shore Country Day School, December 9, away, Victory 61-35.
- Lake Forest Academy, January 8, home, Victory 60-43.
- Latins, January 10, away, Victory 50-32.
- Woodland Academy, January 15, home, Victory 53-42.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 18, away, Victory 58-31.
- Francis Parker, January 18, away, Victory 56-43.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 22, home, Victory 59-44.
- Morgan Park Academy, January 26, away, Victory 56-42.
- Latins, February 2, home, Victory 49-43.
- Northbridge College Prep, February 5, home, Victory 56-31.

**SidSosa continues squad super saga**

Continuing to solidify his place among the nation's elite squad players, Senior Nick SidSosa has moved into the top 10 ranking for U-19 men's squads.

Ranked 14th before competing in the Frank Millet Junior Championships, January 19-21 at Harvard University, Nick currently ranks 6th. Nick credits his rapid rise to wins over stronger competition.

"I beat people that had beaten some top five players, so that helped bump me up," Nick said. "But I was really shocked I moved up so much. I checked the rankings online the Monday after the tournament. It feels really good, because I beat guys that I haven't beaten before."

Scores are as follows:

- North Shore Country Day School, December 11, away, Victory 68-46.
- Morgan Park Academy, December 13, away, Victory 60-40.
- Latins, January 13, away, Victory 50-41.
- Lakeshore High School, December 21, away, Victory 38-56.

"It was happy about the article," Zeke said. "It gave Alexis and I recognition that we weren't getting before."

-U-High's photojournalist, Mel Borevitz, junior, took the photo that accompanied the story, but did not receive credit for it. A Sun-Times reporter and photojournalist later at Latins School, January 17, created an overall profile of the Athletic Department scheduled to appear in the Sun-Times sometime this month.

**Sun-Times spotlights stars, athletic program**

Racking up an average of over 20 points per game, Juniors Zeke Upshaw and Alexis Jenkins appeared in a Sun-Times feature December 17. The story covered their playing, personal lives, and recruitment for Division I schools.

"I was happy about the article," Zeke said. "It gave Alexis and I recognition that we weren't getting before."

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New club seeks to clear up wrestling's rep

By Nick Cheskin
Midway reporter

Most people know it's fake. They're not really hitting each other over the head with chairs and shovels, but tradition has been that wrestling is an empty form of entertainment, according to president of the new Wrestling Club Aaron Weiss, senior.

One of Aaron's main goals is to change people's negative perceptions of professional wrestling fans. "Wrestling has sort of a bad rep," Aaron said. "People tend to think of wrestling as a stupid white trash activity. But it's not, it's entertainment, we know that they aren't legitimately beating the crap out of each other."

"It's about resolving a conflict, and we're interested in that the same way people are interested in action movies. Promoting the club through flyers and word of mouth, Aaron is hoping to change people's negative perceptions of pro wrestling fans.

"We are doing several things right now. We are trying to get more members with a light-hearted satirical flyers and raise money through bake sales and stuff to buy tickets for wrestling shows that come to Chicago," Aaron said.

"But we mainly watch DVDs of fights and discuss what things make the fights good, the action level, the conflict and how it's resolved."

Swimmers gearing up for Sectionals Friday

By Anna Kalis Zbikowski
Associate editor

Focussed on longer workouts and a variety of strokes, the boys' swim team will concentrate on cutting times for Sectionals, this Friday, away.

With frequent pasta parties, Homer Shew, co-captain with Won Hee Lee and Michael Miller, all seniors, feels that building strong chemistry helps the team.

"We're doing a lot of carbo loading together and we've bonded as a team over pasta," Homer said. "We're closer than in the past and this will help our relays. I think we'll take 2nd to Ignatius at Sectionals and we will slam all the rest of the teams into the wall. We've beaten everyone except Northside and St. Ignatius."

Coach Paul Guntt feels precise workouts will compensate for inexperience depth.

"If we can make even small changes in the stroke, that can take seconds off of their times," Mr. Guntt said. "This year we're lacking depth. We only have eight or nine swimmers on varsity and we've swam well but we still get beat."

Recent scores as follows:

SIEPEI: Nineteen Point, November 30; away; Varsity placers 3rd of 6; Latin: Walder Pierson. December 7; home; Varsity won 121-86-69; i.w. won 94-66-6. Northside College Prep; December 13; away; Varsity lost 82-84; i.w. won, 63-62.

Morton: High School: 177, January 5; home; Varsity won 109-44. i.w. won 86-50. St Ignatius/Mazzenni, January 10. away; Varsity lost 44-111. i.w. lost 71-144-6. Riverside Brookfield: Sectional; January 12; away. Varsity placed 7th of 9 with 199 points. Evergreen: Sectional; January 19; away; i.w. placed 3rd of 9 with 518 points. Whitney Young; January 25; home; Varsity won 85-41. Lake Forest Academy; January 29; home; Varsity won 115-66. Lenox Tech; January 31; away; Varsity lost 66-56. i.w. lost 53-99. St Rita, February 5; home; after Midway decision.

SPORTS GABE BUMP

Does steroid testing make sense for high schoolers?

ONCE AGAIN a controversial facet of professional sports has trickled down into high school athletics.

Beginning next fall, Illinois will join Florida, Texas and New Jersey as the only states to require random steroid testing for high school athletes during state playoffs.

Once has to question, though, the program's relevance to athletics at U-High.

Looking at members of U-High sports teams, there isn't a single person resembling Barry Bonds or Joe Canseco. There isn't any doubt that professional sports have entered an age of steroid use, which could potentially influence talented teenagers to emulate their role models.

But even the best athletes at U-High don't show any effects of steroid use. Sure, basketball games attract a fairly large crowd on Friday nights, but for the most part, sports come second in importance to academics.

Most athletes here don't feel the pressure to succeed prominently outweighing their minds.

At other schools, where having fun on the weekends consists of Friday night football games, athletes feel clear pressure to perform at a higher level.

Some student athletes may find steroids the only way to reach that next level and relieve the pressure. At U-High it's doubtful such pressure exists.

While every student at U-High can graduate and go on to get a college education, for students at disadvantaged schools, sports might provide the only means to receive a college education.

This makes those teenagers who aren't gifted with the natural talent needed to play collegiate sports view steroids as a way to quickly get bigger, faster and stronger.

With the demand for more athletic players rapidly increasing, the IHSA has taken a stand by instituting this steroid testing.

But, don't expect any Maroons mentioned in George Mitchell's follow up report.

Fencing Club members place high in gigantic New Trier tournament

Finishing 8th and 16th at the New Trier Invitational fencing tournament January 12, Sophomores Bill Stueben and Paul Weichselbaum led nine Fencing Club members preparing for next year, when the club becomes an athletic team.

All nine, both male and female, competed in the foil divisions at the tournament, which hosted 304 students from 10 schools fencing in male and female foil, saber, and epee divisions. Other U-High competitors included: Clarke Brody (42nd), Julia Goldsmith-Fincham (50th), James Grove (34th), Kenan Gunger (21st), Peter Hansen (49th), Alexa Mine (34th), Danny Trush (37th).

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Fifteen miles to the west of Albany, New York, rises a wall of rock nearly 1,100 feet in height, known as the Helderberg Escarpment. Since 2001, photographer John Yang has captured in detail the beauty of the landscape around this area, especially along Indian Ladder Trail. Yang’s photographs are reminiscent of works by great nineteenth-century landscape photographers Carleton E. Watkins and William Henry Jackson. His seductive prints lead the viewer on a visual hike along Indian Ladder Trail, opening the eyes to expansive scenery at one moment and drawing one inward at the next, into dark and mysterious chambers of layered rock. A quiet timelessness pervades his scenes. Yang’s photographic journey along Indian Ladder Trail is a lyric one, filled with a sense of self-discovery.

John Yang
Indian Ladder: A Lyric Journey

February 1–March 15
Opening reception with the artist: Friday, February 1, 5:00–8:00pm

311 West Superior Street
Suite 404/408
Chicago, IL 60610

Wednesday–Saturday
11:00–6:00pm

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