

## 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 blouse and jeans. 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-Saturday, February 24-26 in Belfield Theater. Tickets are on sale in the High School Lobby for \$9.

Directed by Juniors Joe Boisvert 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

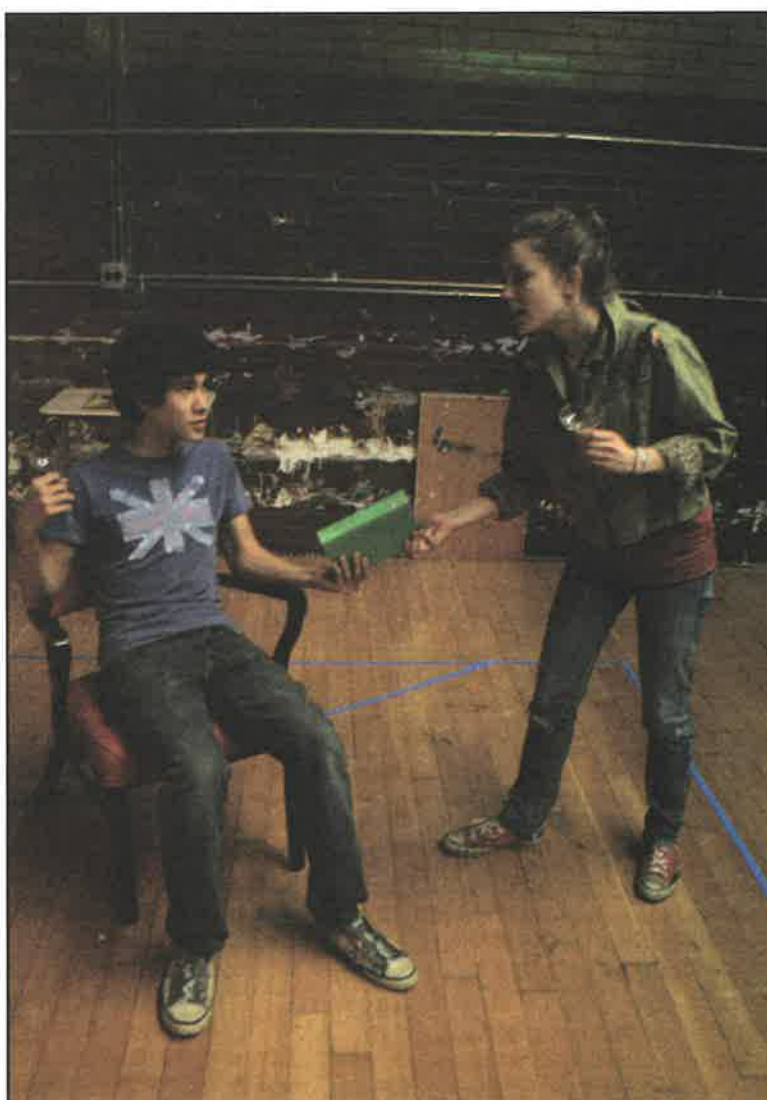


Photo by Joe Boisvert  
**AMONG FIVE one-act plays in Student Experimental Theatre's production, February 24-26, "The Amicable Parting" focuses on the breakup of a couple. Bill will be played by James Krull and Alicia by Linda Huber.**

and is very calm and relaxed compared to his wife.

"It's probably stranger than some of the other plays; it's not as  
(continues on page 15)

## Artsfest opens with action

By Aaron Weiss  
Midway reporter

Showcasing an exhibition of several fighting styles, the martial arts group Enso will battle during the Artsfest opening ceremony in Upper 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 Artsfest Committee Chairperson Devika Werth, senior.

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

Artsfest will offer 74 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 Artsfest 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 nine U-High musical acts performing, the Woods-men 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.

"It's going to be some down-home folk music, straight  
(continues on page 15)

## Science Expo to take off like a rocket

By Emily Roberts  
Midway reporter

Homemade bottle rockets will be launched on Jackman Field as students compete to make their rocket take the longest flight at the fourth

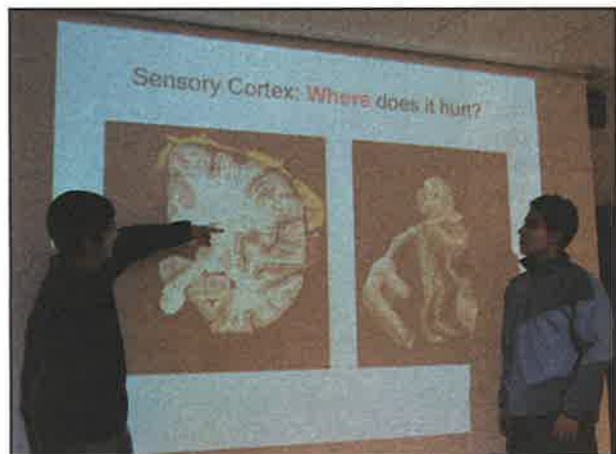


Photo by Eva Jaeger

**EXPLAINING TO friend Adrian Aldana about how sensitive the brain is to pain, Daniel Traub plans to present a board displaying his findings at the upcoming Science Expo. Both are freshmen.**

annual Science Expo, 1-5 p.m., Saturday, February 23.

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 Sunny Gyms', 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 Belfield 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 pro-

grams 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 outwards 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  
(continues on page 15)

### LOOKING INSIDE

#### 2 DECISION TO DROP A.P.s 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.

#### 4 PRESIDENTIAL 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.



Art by Eric Cochrane

#### THE TRUTH 16 OF DIABETES



Photo by Hanna Redleaf  
**FOR U-HIGH FACULTY and a student with diabetes, the disease can become a part of everyday life.**





"I really liked the dancing. It was really phenomenal. I could really feel the original poetry as well."  
—Sam Shapiro, junior

## REMEMBERING DR. KING'S LEGACY IN WORD, MUSIC AND DANCE

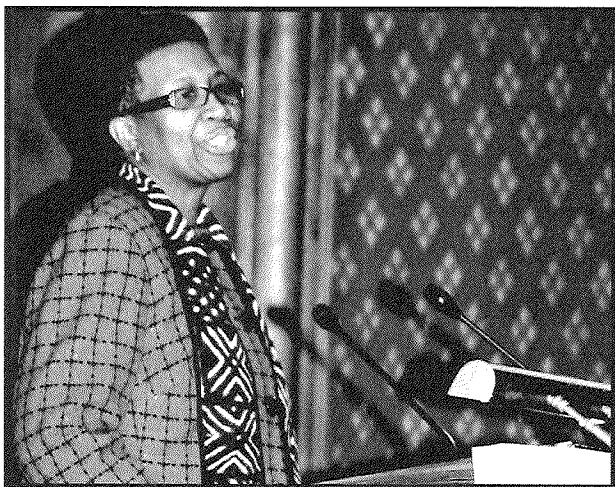


Photo by Loren Kole

**SPONSORED** by Black Students' Association, the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Assembly January 18 in Mandel Hall, included a wide rang of participants.

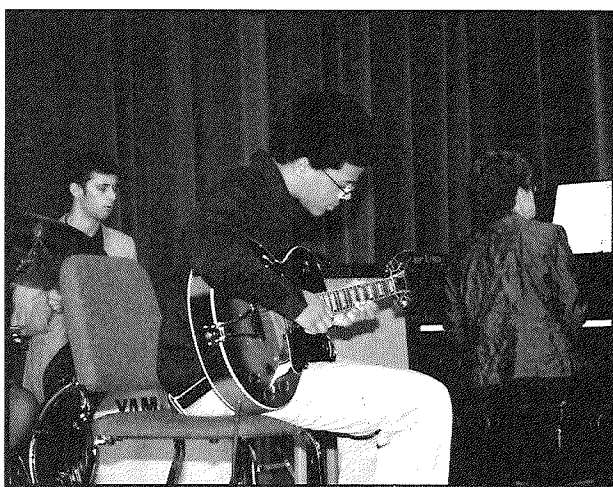


Photo by Loren Kole

**NARRATING THE STORY** (photos from left), of the Little Rock Nine, former U-High Dean of Students Jewel Willis Thomas reflected on the integration of schools during the civil rights movement.

**AMONG PERFORMERS** at the assembly, Sam Frampton



Photo by Adam Gelman

played God Bless America, accompanied by John Swank on the drums and Katy Sinclair on piano.

**DAZZLING THE CROWD**, Janu Arun, Nisha Duara and Natalia Khosla performed a classical Indian dance called Bhoomi Mongalam. A reception followed the assembly.

# Faculty recommends departmental A.P. decisions

By Sam Frampton

Midway reporter



Mr. Horvat

This comes after a unanimous vote at their January 6 meeting when faculty recommended that each department decide whether or not to continue A.P.

**B**y April 11 faculty departments will have to tell Principle Mathew Horvat whether or not they will be making changes to their A.P. curriculum.

This comes after a 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.

"We thought 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."

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## 'Connections' to benefit programs which build community at school

By Nick Chaskin

Midway reporter

More than 750 parents are expected to fill the elegant, simply-decorated Navy Pier Ballroom during this year's "Connections" benefit, 6:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday March 1.

The black tie optional evening will include cocktails, auctions, a raffle, dancing, a live performance by the Chicago based R&B group Lynne Jordan and the Shivers, and a sit-down meal. The menu was still being discussed at Midway

deadline.

Guests will receive the Memory Book comprised of art and ads bought by members of the Lab Schools community, a change from last year's Ad Book.



Ms. Collins

This year's "Connections" tickets cost \$175 and must be purchased by Friday through the mailed invitation, fax, or over the phone, according to Ms. Kate Collins, cochairperson of the "Connections" committee with Ms. Carol Rubin and Ms. Evonne Taylor.

"Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring friends," Ms. Collins said. "We specifically chose the Navy Pier Grand Ballroom so we can accommodate as many people as possible.

"Our goal is to have 750 guests, 100 more than last year, but we would love to have more."

Proceeds from the "Connections" benefit are expected to reach \$500,000, according to Ms. Collins.

"The proceeds will go to developing the 'whole child,' through programs to provide health and a well-rounded

education in the arts, a continuation of last year's 'fine arts' theme which benefited the theater, music and fine arts programs," Ms. Collins explained.

"This year, proceeds from Connections will fund programs and activities that support the education and development of the 'whole child,' including programs that build community at Lab, funds for need-based financial aid and the purchase of cafeteria equipment to support our new food service program," Ms. Collins said.

Cocktails will be served during the silent auction at 6:30 p.m., accompanied with live music from the U-High Jazz Band, according to Ms. Collins.

"The Jazz Band is always a huge hit among the parents, the auction is a time for parents to move around and socialize, have a drink and some fun," she said.

"After that we're going to transition to the Ball Room for a sit down meal, catered by Navy Pier.

"At this, time we will also auction off the kids art, which is always completely amazing.

"Last year we made \$10,000 from the painted trays that the students made; this year the theme is spheres or globes."

Student volunteers are welcome and will be selling raffle tickets, according to Ms. Collins.

"We would love to have as many student volunteers as possible," she said. "Not only will it be a fun time for all but students will also get free food.

"Students would be selling raffle tickets. We are raffling a package new Mac laptop computer, a printer and an iPod Touch."

"The new speakers are good for emergencies, instead of that annoying horn and everyone being like 'what's going on,' there's someone telling you what to do."  
—Jackie Robertson, freshman



## Yearbook wins crown in 2007 state competition

Top state and national honors have come to the 2007 U-Highlights.

The school's first all-color yearbook was named Best Overall Yearbook in the Eastern Illinois School Press Association's annual competition.

Competing in the category of schools with less than 500 enrollment, one of three contest divisions, U-Highlights received first place awards in six of eight categories. They were Best Use of Photography, Best Coverage of the Year, Best Sports Coverage, Best Copy, Best Graphics and Best Dividers. The yearbook placed third in Layout and Design and in Theme Development.

The National Scholastic Press Association awarded U-Highlights its top rating, All American. Evaluating entries using a detailed scorebook, judges also gave the book Marks of Distinction for special excellence and creativity in Coverage, Concept, Writing and Editing, and Photography. They did not give the book an award for Design.

Editors-in-chief were Senior Liwen Xu and 2007 graduate Michael Hernandez. Photography editor was 2007 graduate Rachel Hanessian.

"We wanted the yearbook to be about the students," Liwen said. "And to keep true to that we went with unconventional graphics and designs that, coupled with a full color palette, was vibrant and engaging. The yearbook was well-received, the students seem to enjoy it. That's always a reassuring sign that we've got it right."

## SPEAKER TRACES ROAD TO RIGHTS



Photo by Liwen Xu

"DID FREEDOM mean something different for men and women?" Amy Dru Stanley, an associate professor of history at the University of Chicago, asked Ms. Cynthia Jurisson's U.S. History and A.P. U.S. History students during double lunch Thursday, January 3 in U-High 103-104.

Exploring the ambiguities of slave emancipation, Professor Stanley argued that rights granted to freed men did not extend to women of any race as she traced Supreme Court interpretation of the 14th Amendment from the time of reconstruction to the progressive era.

Chair of Undergraduate Studies in History, Professor Stanley is the mother of Junior Tom Stanley-Becker and 8th-grader Isaac Stanley-Becker.

# Brief-ly 'Whole New Mind' author to speak

Look to the creative and emotional "right-brain" thinkers to be more successful than the logical and analytical "left-brain" thinkers in the future.

So believes author Daniel Pink who will explain this idea in his book "A Whole New Mind," to the Lab Schools community 7:30 p.m., Monday February 25 in Judd 126.

Chosen for the 2007 faculty and staff summer reading book, "A Whole New Mind" sparked intense, stimulating conversations when the faculty met in September to discuss the novel, according to Lab Schools Director David Magill.

"Mr. Pink will talk about the premises behind the book, where he got the idea and what he's learned," Mr. Magill said. "The book is widely read and he is currently one of the most sought-after speakers in the country. What he had to say in the book was provocative information for education and could help us on our facilities, especially in the arts."

■ **MAY PROJECT**—Headed by new May Project Coordinator Becky Chmielewski, Lower School assistant teacher, seniors are preparing the culmination of their high school careers: May Project.

After seniors chose their advisers last month, the remaining May Project forms, including a proposal, were due last Friday. Ms. Chmielewski replaced former College Counselor Will Dix as Project Coordinator late last October.

Recommended for the position by Counselor Chris Harper, Ms. Chmielewski plans to publicize May project.

"I've never really seen any May Project in its final format because I really never knew about them visiting classrooms or the presentation nights," Ms. Chmielewski said. "I think the seniors put a lot of work into these and in order to enjoy working so hard, you need to have someone witness all your efforts. I want to make sure the whole community knows what is happening and when, and get them all active and involved at the end of May."

■ **CALENDAR**—School will start Monday, September 8, next year as part of a recently announced calendar.

Faculty members will return the previous Thursday through Friday for their Planning Week. Other major dates are as follows:

**Faculty in-service day**, no classes, Friday, November 7; **Thanksgiving recess**, Wednesday, November 26 through Friday, December 28; **Winter recess**, Monday, December 22 through Friday, January 2; **Martin Luther King day**, no school, Monday, January 19; **Break, no school**, Friday, February 13; **Spring recess**, Monday, March 16 through Friday, March 27; **faculty in-service day**, no classes, Friday, April 27; **Memorial Day holiday**, no school, Monday, May 25; Thursday, June 11.

Calendar for the following school year, 2009-2010, has been announced as follows:

**Planning Week**, Tuesday, September 1 through Friday, September 4; **school starts**, Friday, November 6, **faculty in-service day**, no school; **Thanksgiving recess**, Wednesday, November 25 through Friday, November 27; **Winter recess**, Monday, December 21 through Friday, January 1; **Martin Luther King day**, no school, Monday, January 18; **Break**, no school, Friday, January 12 through Monday, February 15; **Spring recess**, Wednesday, March 17 through Friday, March 26; **Faculty in-service day**, no school, Friday, April 16; **Memorial Day**, no school, Monday, May 31; **Graduation**, Thursday, June 10.

■ **TASTE OF PHILLY**—Soft pretzels, cheese steaks, bookbinder soup and tastykakes top the menu for the Taste of Philly Party for faculty 2:45-4:30 p.m. Friday, February 15 in Judd 126.

Coming to the Lab Schools from Philadelphia, Lab Schools Director David Magill introduced the Taste of Philly in 2003.

"Before the Taste of Philly there was what was called the Director's Party during mid-Winter Break, which was a rare opportunity for all the departments to get together," Mr. Magill explained. "I grew up in Philadelphia, I lived there for 50 years, so when I came here in 2003 I wanted to introduce people to the foods of Philadelphia. There's the 'Taste of Chicago' and there's the 'Taste of Philly.' It gives a chance to enjoy cheese steaks, bookbinder snapper soup, soft pretzels and tastykakes. But also, it's a chance for people to let their hair down, sit at round tables and just hang out."

■ **MOVING IN**—Offering imported specialty products as well as domestic items, Treasure Island will replace the Hyde Park Co-Op later this month depending on city licenses and stock inventory.

After 75 years of serving the Hyde Park community, the Co-Op closed January 20, with the grocery store's Board of Directors voting seven to one to shut down the indebted store.

Advocating the transition between stores, University of Chicago Assistant Vice President for Real Estate Operations Ilene Reizner said the community would benefit from a new grocer.

"In order to help the Co-Op exit gracefully, it was important for us to find a new grocer that would be better for the community," Ms. Reizner explained. "We're bringing in what we believe is a high quality, full service grocery store. The quality and selection of food will be far better than what the Co-Op offered and the customer service will be more sufficient. But most importantly, Treasure Island has agreed to take over the Co-Op's shopping and delivery program to guarantee continuous food service for those who cannot do their shopping."

■ **ART EXHIBIT**—Paintings, sculpture, photography and other art by high school students of Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts and Art teacher Ms. Mirentxu Ganzarain will be exhibited in a show opening Friday, April 18 running through May at Stuart Rodgers Gallery, 375 West Erie. Seventy percent of any sales from the students will go to the Lab Schools Scholarship Fund.

Stuart Rodgers has long done portrait photography for U-High's yearbook. Other schools participating in the exhibit will be New Trier, Walter Payton, Latin and Loyola.

■ **NEW SUMMER COURSES**—Five High School courses are being offered as part of Summer School, in session June 23-August 1.

The courses are as follows: A.P. Computer Science, taught by Mr. Baker Franke and Ms. Marty Billingsley, 1/3 elective credit; Civil Rights Movement, Mr. Paul Horton, including a four-day trip July 28-31 to Georgia and Alabama, 1/3 History credit; Latin 1, Ms. Elvira Pellitteri, one credit; Geometry, teacher to be announced, one credit.

Ninth graders also are invited join 7th and 8th graders on a tour of Germany, Belgium and France June 27-July 7, led by teachers Ms. Kelly Storm and Ms. Jan Yorst.

More information is available at <http://www.ucls.uchicago.edu/summer/fieldstudy.html>, according to Director of the Auxiliary Programs Group Mr. Ned Reece. Mr. Reece is also looking for U-Highers interested in serving as campus counselors, song and dance assistants, Summer School assistants and Sports Camp assistants and can be reached at <http://summerlab.org> or at 773-834-7766.

"The enrollment deadline is far off. One could enroll as late as June 20," Mr. Reece said. "But go, no-go decisions are made regarding classes at the end of April. Also, an early-bird discount of \$100 or 10 percent, if fees are less than \$1,000, is offered if registration is completed by April 15."

■ **FREE SPEECH**—Lecturing on the history of rights and consequences of free speech during wartimes, Professor Geoffrey Stone will speak to Ms. Cynthia Jurisson's U.S. History and A.P. U.S. History classes during double lunch this Thursday in U-High 103-104.

A law professor at the University of Chicago, Mr. Stone primarily teaches constitutional law and evidence. Discussion of his book "Perilous Times: Free Speech in Wartime from the

Sedition Act of 1798 to the War on Terrorism," tops the agenda for the lecture.

■ **FRENCH EXCHANGE**—Exploring Chicago and its culture while attending classes at U-High, French students Mélanie Litviak and Mathilde Trounec arrived February 2 to stay with their U-High hosts, Juniors Kali Frampton and Emily Searles, respectively.

David Percand and Laurent Moizeu arrived February 9 and are staying with Juniors Sam Shapiro and Will Montag, respectively. Each student will plan to stay for four weeks.

The students attend Lycée St. Exupéry High School in La Rochelle. Kali and Emily stayed with their exchange students last October in La Rochelle and attended classes at Lycée after winning the Eliade Scholarship given to two sophomores learning French for academic achievement, maturity and openness to different cultures at the Awards Ceremony last June.

"I'm going to take Mathilde to the theater, movies and concerts," Emily said. "We'll definitely do lots of shopping along Michigan Avenue. But I also want to take her shopping on Southport street and in Andersonville so she can explore more neighborhoods."

"I don't want her to only see the commercial parts of Chicago. We'll also do lots of sight seeing, maybe we'll go to the top of the Sears Tower or on a Chicago River Tour if it's not too cold."

■ **SENIOR GETAWAY**—After a three-hour bus ride from Hyde Park to the Eagle Ridge Resort and Spa outside Galena near the Illinois-Wisconsin-Iowa border, seniors jumped on sleds and laced up their ice skates, kicking off Senior Getaway January 26-28.

The next day approximately 70 seniors enjoyed a sunny day on the slopes either skiing or snowboarding, while others enjoyed trips to the town of Galena and sledding.

At night seniors gathered to swim, make ice cream sundaes and compete in a pop-culture trivia game against chaperons. After trivia, the majority of the grade danced the night away to songs including "Jump on it," "Soulja boy" and the "Cha-Cha Slide."

■ **NEW SCHOOL SAFETY**—"Testing one, two, three." Since returning from winter break, U-Highers have heard voices resonate throughout the halls, testing a new safety system.

Replacing hand bells and bullhorns, the Lab Schools Facilities Department installed the 60-speaker network over winter break. With drills involving students and faculty planned for this Spring, administrators are preparing to deliver warnings.

"The speakers will be used for any kind of emergency, when there is a need to communicate," Lab Schools Associate Director David Stafford said. "In a tornado, for instance, the High School Office could receive an online weather update. Whoever gets that update would then call me or one of two other administrators, who would then dial a number to activate the speakers."

"Right now we are running tests to make sure everyone involved in the emergency procedure knows what to do. We know that the speakers work but we need to adjust settings so that warnings are audible in every part of the school."

## Student Council distributes guide with student appraisals of courses

By Tom Stanley-Becker

Student government editor

Distributed last week, Student Council's Insider's Guidebook assisted students registering for classes February 5-11.

This year's registration took place in separate rooms based for each advisory or Junior College Workshop group, instead of in Judd 126. The booklet combines information collected by Student Council members, design by U-Highlights Editor-in-Chief Ben Picker and photos by Midway and U-Highlights photographers.

Coordinated by Student Council President Dan Hornung, senior and Vice President Addie Epstein, junior, the 36-page book is composed of ratings of courses from selected, anonymous students based on homework

load, in-class work, quizzes, tests and papers.

This year's guide also includes in-depth quotes from students who were interviewed by Student Council members, according to Dan.

"The book is a good thing because often counselors and teachers tell students what courses they should take but it is often good to get a student perspective too. It shows that Student Council is serious about doing things for the school."

"First, we have to make sure there is something written about each class. So we talk to a number of students in each class. We are not surveying every single person like Student Council did in 2006-2007. We are surveying less people but going more in-depth in interviews."



# 4 Keeping up

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008



"What was most interesting about the caucus was the record turnout among republicans, independent and first time voters coming out to support Barack Obama."  
—Graham Salinger, senior

## 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 T.V. 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.



Joel

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

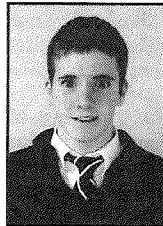
"I really think that the Republican primaries are especially interesting because there are no real front-runners," Joel said. "I wasn't expecting Baptist Minister Mike Huckabee to win the Iowa primary at all; I just can't see him being nominated to run in the general election because of his stance on 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 California who have more delegates will really make a difference, in my mind. No one person seems to be holding ground at the top."



Mike

"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."

Pleased about a larger than usual turnout at caucuses, Sophomore Anshellie Akuamoah feels that younger voters are driving the election.



Anshellie

"I was very surprised that so many people attended the caucuses," Anshellie 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 watch-

ing 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 Baughn-Cunningham finds Senators Obama and Clinton's arguing unnecessary.



Ms. Baugh-Cunningham

"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 nice 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.



Eva

"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 'not open.' She may not be as good of a speaker as Senator Obama, but I really appreciated her openness in that speech."



Photo courtesy of Graham Salinger

AMONG SEVEN Chicago high school students in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, volunteering for the Obama campaign December 29-January 4, Dan Hornung held up posters at busy intersections to remind local residents to caucus January 3. Four other U-Highers volunteered.

## 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 and vote for Obama."

The Iowa caucuses represented an example of democracy at its finest, according to Junior Don Traubert.

"When I went into one of the caucuses it

was amazing because Barack, literally, had almost double the support of any other candidate," Don 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 phenomenal, 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 you 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.

## 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.

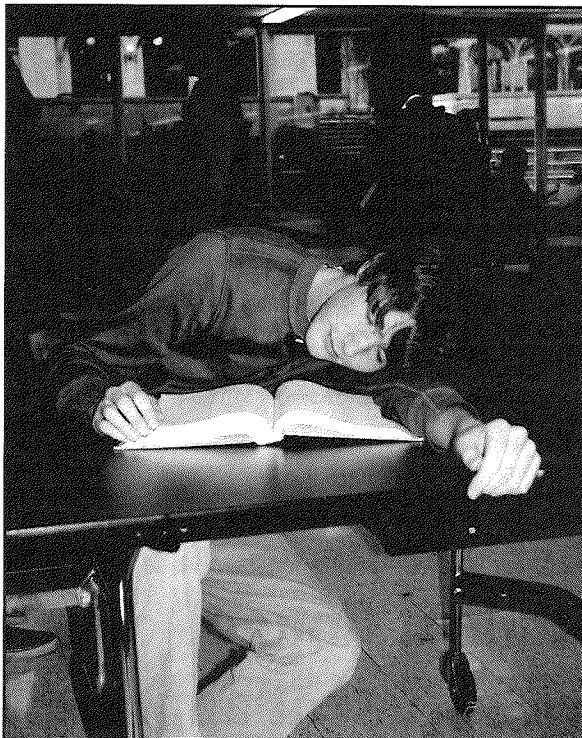


Photo by Liwen Xu

**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.**

*University Market*

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(773) 363-0070



"Mr. Saéz keeps the class really exciting. He's a really funny guy and brings a different style of teaching to Lab."

—Michele Henderson, junior



# Calls from the Fire Swamp.....by Eric Cochrane



## CHARACTER SKETCH CYDNEY WEINER

### Exploring the world with curiosity and courage

CLAD IN A GREY button-down sweater and black patent-leather loafers, Science Teacher Francisco Javier Saéz 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 Doe.

Though he doesn't broadcast his black belt achievement to his classes, students and others 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. Saéz said.

"I come from the village of Galarreta in the province of Alava in the Basque region of Spain," explained Mr. Saéz, 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



Art by Eric Cochrane

abroad as he became an adult, Mr. Saéz said. At 32, he made his first trip to the United States.

"I didn't know much about the U.S., but I thought, I love 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. Saéz 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. Saéz explained.

"When you are a foreigner, an alien, the first thing you need to do is get someone to sponsor you," Mr. Saéz said. "You can't just get a job anywhere. As an international student after 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. Saéz said.

Mr. Saéz 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. Saéz 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."

## 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 Photography and Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts snaps a photo with her Hasselblad Manual camera.

Unveiling her latest portfolio "13," Ms. Ricketts posted 20 of 30 total black and white portraits of her 13-year-old 8th grade students on a personal website, [www.poorpress.com](http://www.poorpress.com) in December. Ms. Ricketts began shooting for the "13" collection three years ago.

"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."

"I'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 Massad 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."

## Unparalleled Elegance... Only at Josephine

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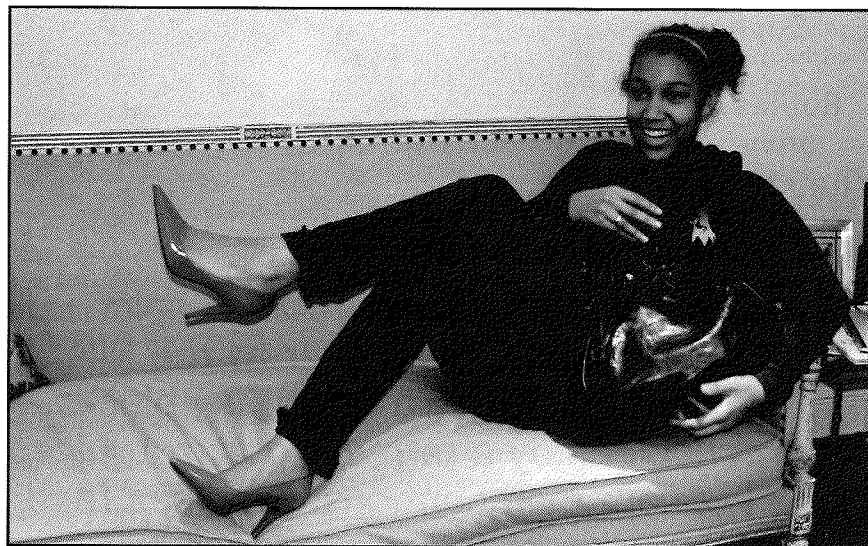


Photo by Sydney Marcus

SEARCHING for the perfect birthday gift for her mother, Senior Victoria Rogers has finally found a perfect purse and even some shoes for herself!



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# 6 Triple vision

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008



"In 5th grade I slept at the Brunkes' and I couldn't fall asleep. They gave me a glass of warm milk and it was wonderful."  
—Alex Zimmer, junior

## 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 Slippers 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 spikes 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 dark 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."

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

"Living in 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 window 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 know what we did wrong, and won't do it again, there is no reason to be grounded."

**JOKINGLY, 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 one more minute than them so I know more things than they do. We are pretty much

opposites 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 everything. The videos range from our birthdays being celebrated in the lower school, to all of us playing the recorder."

One of my favorite videos has our grandpa playing the harmonica and tap dancing and



Photo by Adam Gelman

**BRUNKE TRIPLETS** Kevin (top), Quinn and Kyle celebrated their birthday yesterday, 18 years after being born 10 weeks premature. Quinn, the eldest by a minute, was followed by Kevin. Finishing in last place as the youngest, Kyle was born a minute after Kevin.

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 none the less."

**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 poo,' would play the bodyguard."

Interests in music and activities have changed since they were kids but tough 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, Quinn likes wrestling and Kevin likes music. Our interests have definitely changed but I would probably go crazy if Kevin or Quinn were not there. I'd end up talking to myself;

## Add Some Middle-Eastern Flavor!

FEASTING ON delicious Chicken Shawerma and rice pudding from the Nile Restaurant, Sophomore Antonio Robles is the envy of the lunch crowd.

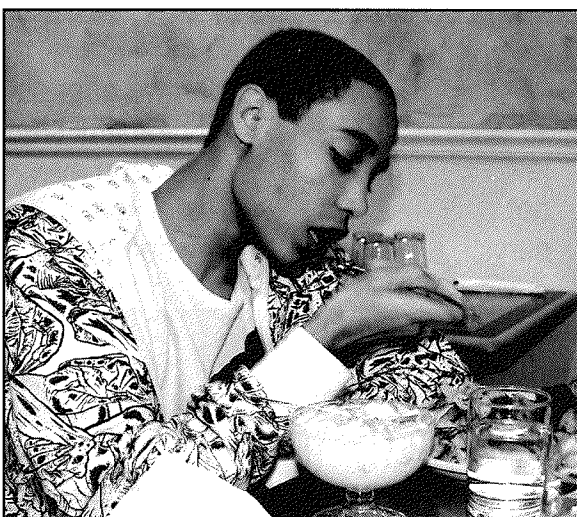


Photo by Loren Kole

If you're looking for tasty food to spice up your double lunch, head over to the Nile.

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## 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, cocurricular involvement, counselor recommendations, grades and essays.

All Finalists are considered for schol-

arships; winners will be announced this spring and summer.

U-High finalists are as follows:

**MERIT**—Maria Birukova, Grace Chung, Patrick Differding, Andrey Drinfeld, Frank Firke, Geoffrey Gibbs, Daniel Greenberg, Muneeb Hai, Kais Sharwaf, Jarus Singh, Sarah Wald, Robert Webber, Claire Weichselbaum, Nathan Worcester, Liwen Xu and Katherine Zhou.

**ACHIEVEMENT**—Daniel Hornung, Victoria Rodgers.

## State honors 54 senior Scholars

Fifty-four seniors have been honored as Illinois State Scholars. Based on standardized test scores, the award is sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

Recipients are as follows:

Maria Birukova, Hannah Biskind, Tom Brewer, Chris Chang, Hannah Chaskin, Christina Delicata, Christina Draganich, Ramzi Dreessen, Andrey Drinfeld, Alison Feder, Frank Firke, Alya Forster, May Fu, Geoffrey Gibbs, Daniel Greenberg, Kenan Gungor, Alex Guynn, Muneeb Hai, Ashley Halvorsen, Daniel

Hornung, Shannon Kimball, Madeline LaRue, Won-Hee Lee, Linnea Madsen, Sydney Marcus, David McAlpine.

Michael Miller, Alexa Minc, Jessica Mischel, Kendall Pelander, Johannes Peter, Ben Philipson, Ben Picker.

Dylan Reid, Victoria Rogers, Anne Sawyer, Anna Schlausener, Kais Sharwaf, Jarus Singh, Katherine Smolarek, Hannah Solomon-Strauss, Rebecca Steuer.

Robert Strickling, John Swank, Stephanie Tang, Philip Verma, Devika Werth, Nathan Worcester, Yuwen Wu, David Xu, Liwen Xu, George Yates III, Katherine Zhou, Zhe Zhuang.



"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."  
—Addie Epstein, junior



# PURITY BALLS

**■ Lovely occasion or creepy ritual? Make up your own mind**

By Gabriel Bump  
Associate editor

**E**legant in a white prom-like gown and holding a white rose, a smiling teenage girl slowly walks up to a large cross and places her rose at its side.

Earlier that night, girls had eagerly filed into the Peoria Holiday Inn ballroom extravagantly decorated with balloons and streamers. But instead of teenage boys 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, waltzing, 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 abstaining 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 connotations associated with the fathers' involvement in the girls' pledge to remain abstinent. But for Mrs. Janet Hellige, a volunteer at the Peoria Christian Center who organizes the center's biennial 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 asking 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.

**“The media is playing into something they don't know much about. The picture is so much bigger.”**

—Janet Hellige,  
Purity Ball Organizer

PURITY BALLS: BECAUSE YOU NEED VIRGINS FOR UNICORN BAIT.



Art by Eric Cochrane

"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 Baird 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

Chrissy Delicata feels the decision isn't about rebellion, but comes down to whether or not a person believes in remaining abstinent.

"Either you subscribe to it or reject it," Chrissy 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 'faggot,'" Joe explained. "For girls, losing your virginity seems to be more sentimental, while with guys it's more about getting it over 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 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 dislodge 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."

## PURE FACTS

- ◆ 64% of teens say they share their parents values about sex.
- ◆ 90% of teens believe that providing young people with a strong abstinence message is important.
- ◆ 60% of sexually experienced teens wish they had waited longer to have intercourse.
- ◆ 62% of teens believe that teen boys often receive the message that they are "expected to have sex."
- ◆ 59% of teens believe that teen girls often receive the message that "attracting boys and looking sexy is one of the most important things they can do."
- ◆ 56% of teens believe that young people need more information about abstinence and contraception, rather than either/or.

—National figures from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

**“When you get to a certain age you're expected to have sex with someone.”**

—Senior Chrissy Delicata





"I hope that we will be able to organize an assembly so that we can share with the rest of the school the important issues we learned from the conference."  
—Isabella Prenta, sophomore

## U-Highers trek to D.C. to immerse in national world affairs conference

By Rohini Tobaccowala

Associate editor

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. Marriot 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 concerning issues discussed 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; juniors Emily Bieniek, Kayla Ginsburg, Talia Nasr, Lawrence Plaszka, Kate Reott, Rachel Rosenberg, Jaya Sah, Madhav Suresh, Don Traubert, Dorian Williams; sophomores Alex Fryer, Jennifer Glick, Nicole Massad, Isabella Prenta, Bill Stueben; freshmen Adrian Aldana, Henry Bergman, Fraser Brown, Amir Hay, Sasha Karapetrova, Robert Meyer, Joseph Philipson, Ben Postone, Michael Shapiro.



Photo by Ramzi Dreessen

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

## Leap Day sophomores to become '4 years old'

By Rafi 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 Elfenbaum 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 synch 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 Dances 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.

Believing her birthday is better compared to having a birthday annually, Gabby said she usually celebrates March 1.

"It's great that I actually get to celebrate it this year," Gabby said. "But if it were not a leap year, I would just celebrate it on March 1 like anybody else would. When it's a leap year it's pretty exciting to have an actual birthday but in other years it's not that big of a deal."

Happy that he won't be made fun of this year, Oliver said he's excited to celebrate his actual birthday.

"When I was really young, none of my friends knew what Leap Day was," Oliver explained.

"But as we got older and people were old enough to find out what it meant, they used to make fun of me and say 'Ha ha you are only 3.'"

"However, I never really thought the jokes were annoying. I just didn't really care. Now I just think it's cool and since it's actually going to be on the 29th this year, I'm guessing I'll get better presents or something. But most importantly, I don't have to hear people saying 'It's not your birthday, but happy birthday!'"

## Fall in love with your hair!



Photo by Ramzi Dreessen

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!



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## Curfew idea doesn't sail here

By Tom Stanley-Becker

Associate editor

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-half hour.

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

"Eleven 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 that 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 Horvat.

"If kids are out past curfew, they could be picked up by the police," Mr. Horvat 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 $\neq$ 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.



*Photo by Alya Forster*

*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...*



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(773) 477-7444**





"Tabloid magazines show what a large amount of people really care about. I think we should focus on that."  
—Hanna Redleaf, junior

# GUILTY PLEASURES

## THE INSIDE STORY

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. Instinctively, 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 1952, 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 crammed 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 chance 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 magazines 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 cooperative 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're 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 Maciel 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 Power, freshman



"I hear all these sad rumors about Britney but I think she's going to end up happy. I think she's going to find yet again another guy and have another kid or two."  
—Janu Arun, junior



"Everyone needs just leave Britney alone. 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."  
—Pilar Langdon, junior



## Q/A

*What's the most ridiculous thing you've seen in a gossip publication?*

**"T**he 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

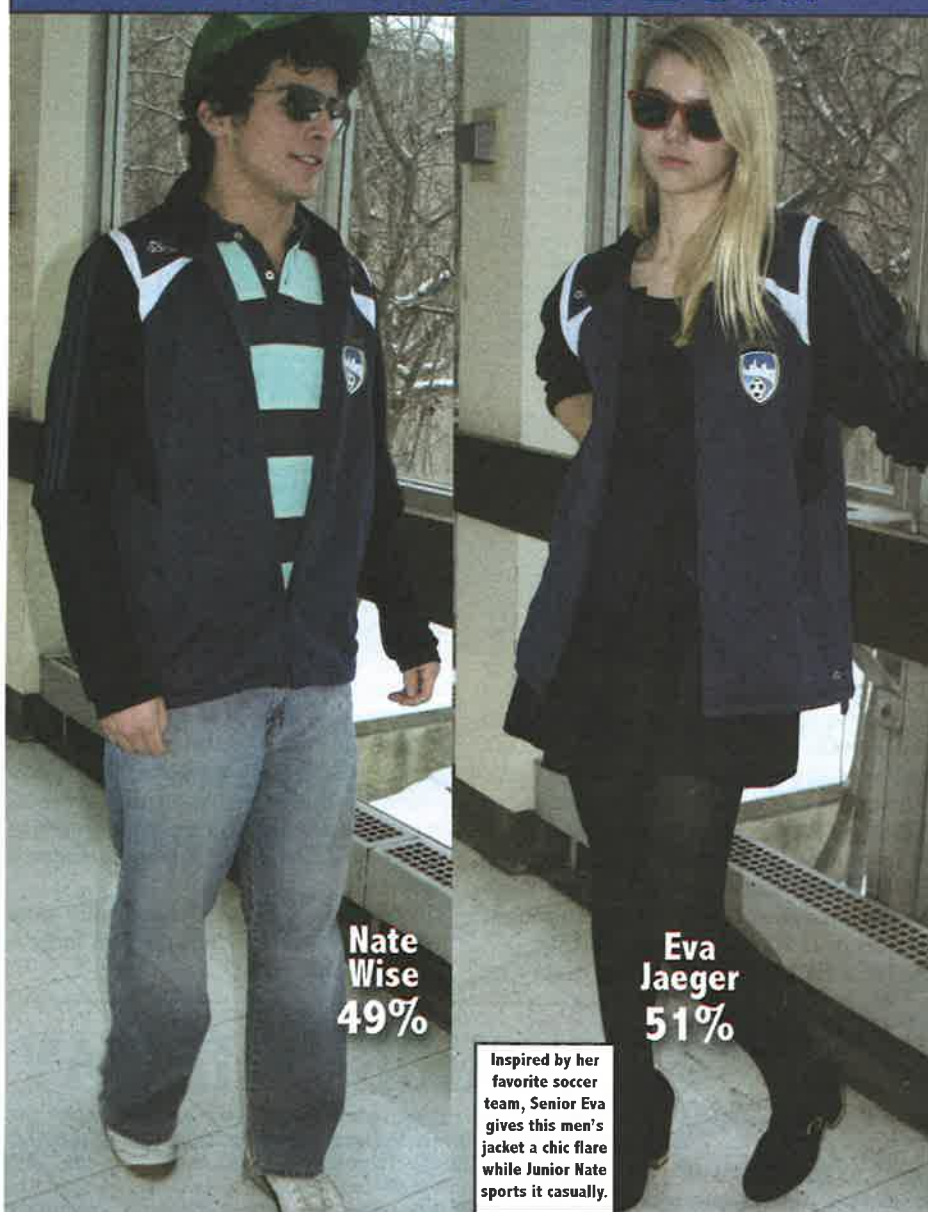
**"T**he strangest thing I've ever seen was the idea that there was a potential link between Paris Hilton's tape and 9/11."

- Frank Firke, senior

**"T**he grossest thing I've ever seen was Paris Hilton's private area covered with a star the magazine added."

- Gabby Knight, senior

## Who Wore It Best?



Nate  
Wise  
49%

Eva  
Jaeger  
51%

Inspired by her favorite soccer team, Senior Eva gives this men's jacket a chic flare while Junior Nate sports it casually.

The Midway asked 177 U-Highers

Photos by Sydney Marcus

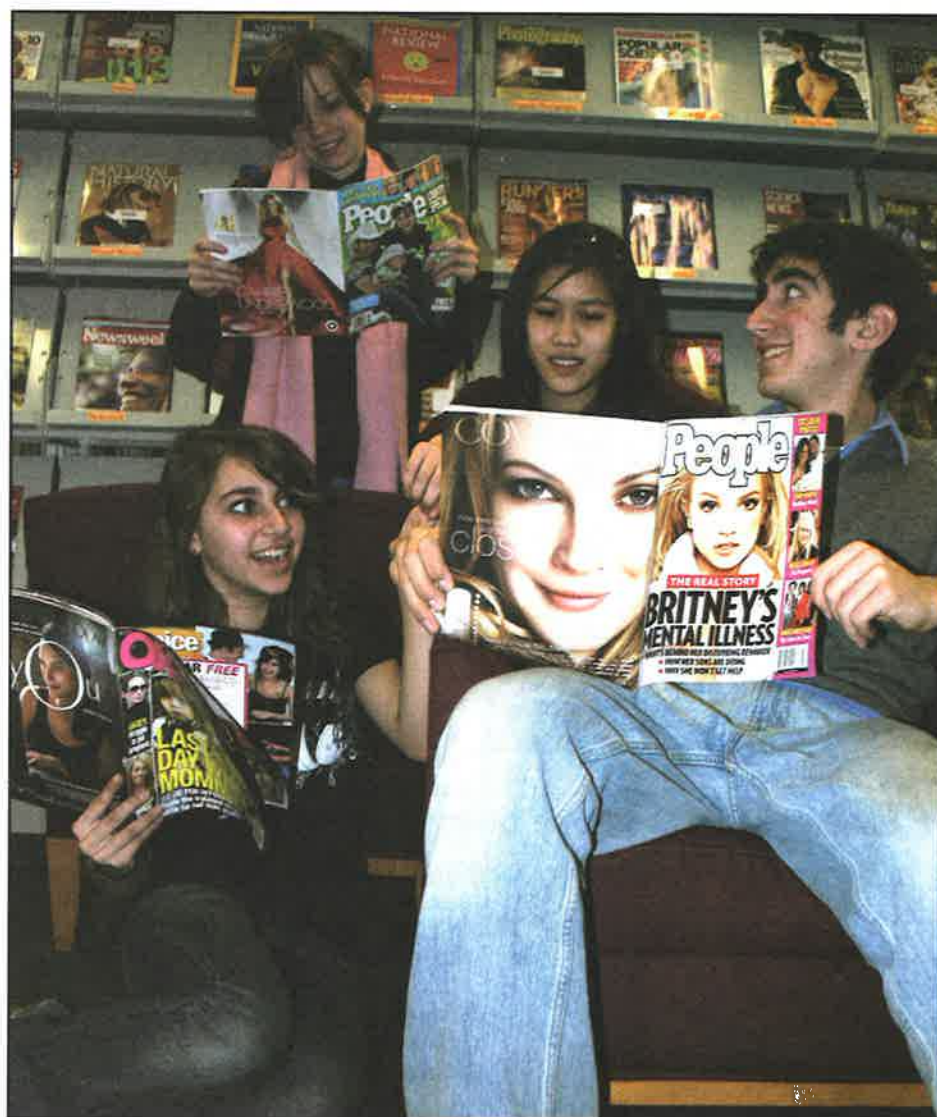


Photo by Sydney Marcus

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."

-Tim 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 Messina, senior

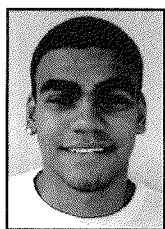


**"B**ritney is definitely going to be forced to go to rehab again, which will force her to abandon her family and sister, who really need her in their lives."

-Ali Drake, freshman



## SAY WHAT?



**Gabe Bump**

*asked:*

**Will you be my Valentine?**

"Cupid" Bump

**ANGIE MACIEL, senior:** No, I would not like to be your Valentine. You're cute, but I need a man that can drive.



**RAPHICUENOD, senior:** Well, the age difference would kind of embarrass me. But, I guess since I haven't really gotten any better offers, I'll think about it. It would only be because I kind of feel sorry for you and cause I want a lot of chocolates and flowers.



**RICHARD TOMLINSON, junior:** Of course I 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.



**GABBY CLARK, sophomore:** I would have to say no. Sorry, you're not really my type and I kind of like someone else.



**OLIVER ELFENBAUM, sophomore:** Naw man I don't roll like that, but I have girls I could possibly hook you up with.



**JULIAN DUBUCLET, freshman:** Heck no, I'm not into that kind of thing.



## AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

### New laws up safety but decrease rights

**U**nder new Chicago and statewide laws, U-High students may find themselves safer but with less liberty. A proposed Chicago law limits teenagers' right to be outside at night, subjecting them to arrest. Next fall, an Illinois High School Athletic Association (IHSA) rule will force student athletes to undergo random drug testing by urinating into a bottle. And under a new state law, teenagers now face strict new limits on both their right to drive at night and the number of passengers in their cars.

Like other cities nationwide, Chicago already enforces a youth curfew. Tightening the rule, Mayor Richard Daley's January 8 proposal authorizes the police to arrest anyone under 17 out after 10 p.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m. on weekends, 30 minutes earlier than under the existing curfew.

Last month, Illinois became the fourth state in the nation where athletic officials have adopted rules subjecting high school athletes to random drug testing. When the policy takes effect next fall, U-High athletes could have to prove they don't use drugs through their urine samples.

Following the trend in other states, Illinois also moved last month to tighten 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 6 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

For the first year of driving or 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 produce urine samples for the IHSA.

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



Art by Lauline Gough

teen curfews, the American Civil Liberties Union cited federal crime statistics showing that the most youth crime occurs before 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."

As citizens who will soon vote while outgrowing the new youth rules, teenagers need to ask whether the needs of safety outweigh the rights of individual freedom.

Limiting constitutional liberty through teen curfews and random drug testing strikes the innocent as well as the guilty. With the police deciding how and where to enforce a stricter curfew, racial profiling may increase. And subjecting high school athletes to random drug tests may prove unreasonable, when teenagers comprise only a tenth of the three million Americans who use anabolic steroids, according to the Mayo Clinic. Nationally, reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, most teenagers die from car accidents, not from violence or steroids.

While limits on driving may make sense, teenagers shouldn't have to risk arrest for walking up the street late at night or lose their privacy simply for running track or playing basketball.

## 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 the only difference.

Instead of inviting a guest speaker to talk about Dr. King and what he meant to America, the Black Students' Association invited Ms. Jewel Willis Thomas, former U-High Dean of Students, to speak about the Little Rock Nine. With the 50th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine's integration of Central High School last September, the focus proved fitting.

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's 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 crowd's unhappiness couldn't perform its planned half time show.

After the game, the crowd's cheers were answered as the team performed in front of loyal fans packing the stands to show their support, signifying that the team has evolved from halftime entertainment to part of U-High's spirited identity.

■ **HALLELUJAH.** A couple of deserving

harrumphs to the loud speakers installation. And a couple more to U-High finally seeing the light.

A constant fixture within the wish lists of students and faculty, greatly stoked with the recent Virginia Tech killings, the speakers granted their admirers a belated holiday present. In addition, they provided a deserving respite for those who risked the most in the previous safety system: the faculty members who would patrol the hallways when unwarranted intruders entered the school buildings. Lucky for them, danger was nowhere to be found.

Lucky for us, Santa Claus finally came to town — even if it did take him forty or more years to do so.

## LETTER FROM COLLEGE ALLANA TACHAUER, 2007

### College is what you make it, no experience needed

(Editor's 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 student. Sometimes, if I'm lucky, a familiar face pops up among the crowd (usually recognizable from Facebook), but usually it feels as though I'm lost, thrown into an unfamiliar environment. Though UIC's undergraduate school has more than 16,000 students, I still manage to feel like an individual in class. With roughly 20 students in three of my classes and 100 to 150 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 Community Psychology, are relatively small and engaging. I only had one small class last semester, so I decided to take a break from the general education requirements and explore possible majors.

Unlike most colleges, UIC does not have 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 the only real time to socialize is right before, in, or right after class, something that took me by surprise.

In fact, one may ask what keeps anyone around at UIC. My answer? Location. Minutes 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 leaves a sinking feeling in my stomach. So, for now, I am giving up a sense of community, something about U-High I miss terribly. But in exchange, I get to see my beautiful Chicago skyline every day. They always say there's no place like home, and I, without a doubt, agree.



Allana

## U-HIGH MIDWAY

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## 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



Julie

Leading Role and the film is up for seven other awards, including Best Director and Best Picture.

Opening at an 1898 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 informa-

tion about an untapped oil deposit on his family's land in the upstate town of Little Boston.

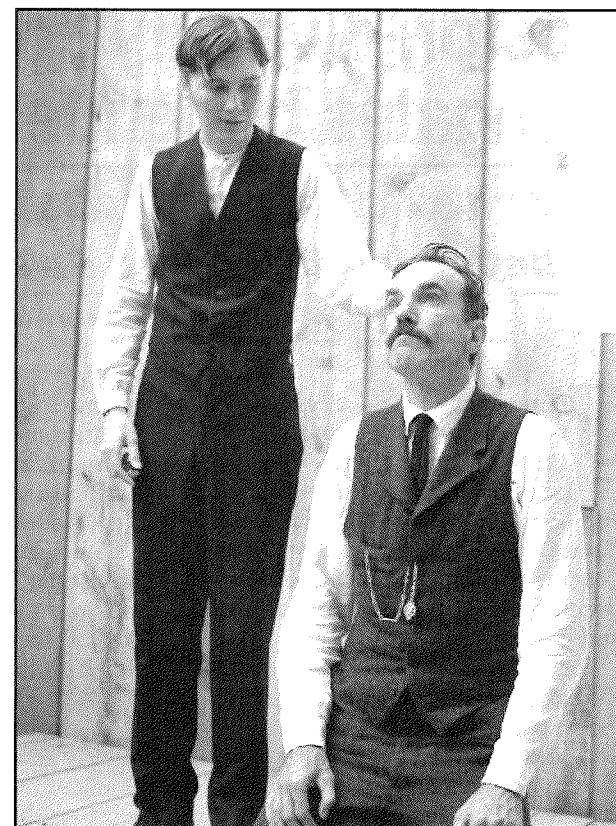
Plainview and H.W. move to the small community and build a profitable rig there, after convincing the townspeople that they will benefit from his intrusion. Not lured in by Plainview's promises, Sunday's maniacal preacher brother Eli (also played by Dano) suspects that he may be cheating the Sunday family – 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 into complete moral bankruptcy, Day-Lewis subtly gives the audience glimpses into the character's humanity and it is ultimately hard not to feel compassionate 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.

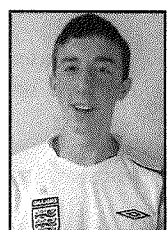


HE PLAYS a character drilling for oil, but Daniel Day-Lewis, right with Paul Dano, has struck gold this award season with "There Will Be Blood."

## MUSIC NATHAN BISHOP

*Great album signals dawn of new musical reality*

PREPARE TO be pulled into deep, dark, psychedelic new places. On Radiohead's new album "In



Nathan

Rainbows" (Ato Records/Red), the British alternative rock band once again explores a new realm of its crazy and unbelievably innovative multilayered style. One thing definitely 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](http://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 Phillip Selway's light percussion with a crooning Yorke advising, "Don't get any big ideas, they're 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 whining or screeching or rhyming, just pure brilliance.



## OPINION KYLE BRUNKE

*When the word 'nerd' is heard*

WHEN THE questioning morphed into an excavation revealing his buried conscience, the blond, blue-eyed bomber of math and science almost shied away. He disliked his assumed inclusion within the "nerd" definition others made for him, having never come to terms with its stereotyped attributes. Even when reminded that he attends U-High, a place known for its demanding workload and overblown expectations, the student still hoped to sever all connections to his fellow minions.

Troubled with the constant worry of condemning himself as a narcissistic genius, he likened the interview 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 his mannerisms annoying.

After all, not all students can see past the intellectual U-High blanket strewn with advanced placement courses, debate clubs and school clubs. This belief was never more prevalent than in his long, exasperated groan at the mention of...

"A nerd? When I think of a nerd, 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 considered 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 interesting."

"I mean, intelligence is so much more than grades. Was Albert Einstein smart? He got horrible grades, but he thought outside the box. That's why the SATs 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 assimilation. Trying to fit in depends 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 somebody. 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."



Kyle

## 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, two blocks east of Michigan Avenue.



Mona

On the high ceiling, pipes swerve to create an almost masterful piece of modern art that clashes perfectly with the palm trees in the corner of the largely brown environment. A sushi bar in the far corner, raised platform seating and a large cocktail lounge and bar area for adults 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 Alfassa 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 chicken dish, like many of Kamehachi's lunch entrées, 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 tempura. The delicate, deep-fried tempura entrée was complemented 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, 312-587-0600. 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m. Monday – Thursday, 11:30 a.m. – midnight Friday – Saturday, noon – 9:30 p.m. Sunday.



# 14 Experiences

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008

## Boston diversity conference delegates bring ideas home

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

By Ruiqi Tang

Associate editor

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, POCC sessions featured speakers and offered networking opportunities for educators, while SDLC 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 Devenport, 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 shocked 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.



"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



Photo courtesy of Ruiqi Tang

**BEFORE CHECKING IN** on November 29 at the Westin Boston Waterfront for the People of Color Conference and Student Diversity Leadership Conference in Boston, from left, delegates Kiara Davis, Antonio Robles, Vanessa Ramirez, Lauren Stewart, Ruiqi Tang and Mila Devenport admire the hotel lobby and prepare for the opening ceremonies.

"There is a hole in our knowledge of people who are different and I feel we need to educate everyone about accepting differences in others. Also, from interacting with other African American students who also want to change the flaws in our society, I learned what steps are needed to make a difference in the black community.

"I think students at Lab should be more aware of this issue. As one of the most diverse private schools in Chicago, we should be embracing our cultures more."

The delegates are restarting the Diversity Club and are organizing the

annual Flava Fest to give people a taste of what they have learned at POCC.

The program offers similar experiences to those at the conferences.

"This year we want to advertise Flava Fest better so hopefully there will be a larger turn out, since it isn't only for people of color," Lauren said.

Also attending the conferences were the following:

Sophomore Kiara Davis and Juniors Ruiqi Tang and Vanessa Ramirez. Faculty chaperons included Math Teacher Shauna Anderson and Counselor and Testing Coordinator Chris Harper.

## Just the 'do' to make him say 'I Love You'



Photo by Yoolim Kim

**AFTER** getting her hair styled, Junior Vanessa Ramirez is ready for a night out with her friends.

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, a 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."

**57th street SALON**

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.

## FIRST PERSON RUIQI TANG

### 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 T.V. Tower. Like other tourists, I was at the Bund, where two different worlds coexist in China's largest city: Shanghai.

The Bund was the first tourist hot spot I visited during my 20-day stay in China's



Ruiqi

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 classrooms neighboring Tien Yi Hotel where students lodged in with 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 Lu 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 framed prints that embellished walls, the restaurant displayed an impressive guest list that included the Clintons, Fidel Castro, and Queen Elizabeth II.

Yet Lu Bo Lang's food proved the main highlight of my trip. Ranging \$8-20 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.



Photo courtesy of Ruiqi Tang

**SURROUNDED** by traditional Chinese buildings in downtown Shanghai, Ruiqi Tang, right, her parents and roommate Vivian wait to dine at a famous Shanghaiese restuarant.



"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



from page one 15

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008

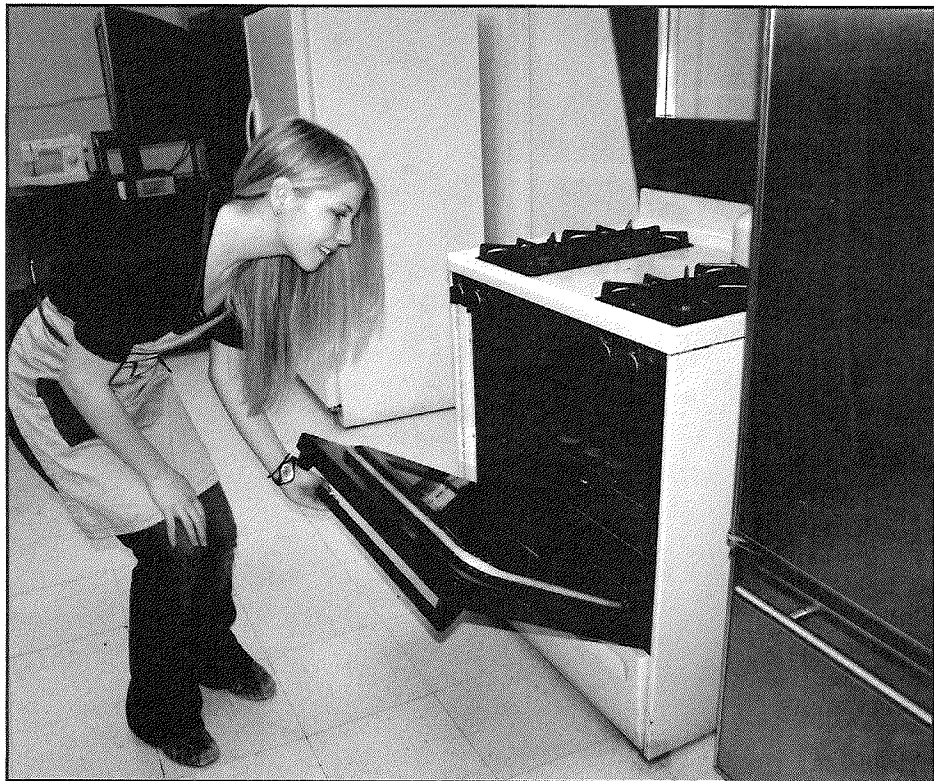


Photo by Eva Jaeger

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

## Artsfest programs

(continued from front page)

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

The band Purple blends several musical styles, playing both original and cover songs, according to member Henry Bergman, freshman.

"Nobody 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 "Dumpster 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 vicious, 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 steal anything. It's purely observational. The best way to understand people is to look at their garbage."

Artsfest was started in 1966 as Arts Week under then-Student Council President David Boorstin.

"There was an arts and crafts competition during the day, with awards being handed out during the closing ceremony," said Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler. "There were many more workshops with a lot being led by artists from around the city.

"However, the program hit a bump when the art teachers asked to be paid for the extra work they were doing on nights and on weekends and the school refused. That was a real insult to all the hard work they did and in a way to their status in the school and they understandably became less enthusiastic."

In the day's closing assembly, the Musical Theatre group will perform a revue featuring singing and acting from several popular musicals, according to member Katherine Vokes, senior.

"We're going to be putting on different skits and doing brief musical numbers," Katherine said. "We're going to be doing stuff from 'Miss Saigon,' 'Phantom of the Opera,' 'Ragtime,' 'Thoroughly Modern Millie,' 'Rent' and a bunch more."

## 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 farther 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).

"My dad researches about pain and it got me interested in it just being around him when he talks about it," Daniel said. "I 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 Margoliash, 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. Margoliash 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 more 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 Krystal Martinez considers her play, "An Ongoing Examination of the True Meaning of Life," written by S.W. Seneck, 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, **directed by** Marrisona Miles-Coccaro. **Cast:** Ramzi Dreessen, Kaitlyn Chang.

**"THE DOOR"** - A nurse comes to aid an old couple, but for some reason the wife will never let the nurse see the husband. Lines between this life and the next become blurred. Playwright unknown, **directed by** Cydney Weiner. **Cast:** Devika Werth, Katherine Vokes, Graham Salinger.

**"AMICABLE PARTING"** - As a couple prepares to get a divorce and divides up their possessions the reason for their separation is revealed. **Written by** George S. Kaufman, **directed by** Charlotte Long. **Cast:** Linda Huber, James Krull.

**SOUND-AND-LIGHT SHOW** - "The Sound and Lights Show, which I am directing with Krystal Martinez and Andy Zich, will be very different this year," said SET Board Head Marrisona Miles-Coccaro. "We are going to be using a lot of glow in the dark materials and different incenses used in tribal medicine. The theme is sort of a battle between good and evil. It involves two ninjas fighting each other. Usually we do dances for the Sound-and-Light Show, but I'm trying to get out of that."

Other SET Board members include Kelly, Joe, Cydney, Krystal and Victoria.

## New class will focus on Presidency

By Graham Salinger

Associate editor

A fall quarter course covering the 2008 Presidential election will be offered to juniors and seniors next fall, according to History Department Chairperson Andrea Martonffy. The course, "The Presidential Election 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 first-hand while following the Presidential campaigns, explained History Teacher Cindy Jurrison, 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 be involved in the political process regardless of their party affiliation. Students will be encouraged to volunteer in a campaign, and we plan to invite in guest 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

Real men give flowers. And to keep the ladies happy, real men go to CORNELL FLORISTS to buy beautiful flowers at affordable prices. That's how real men stay fly, for real.

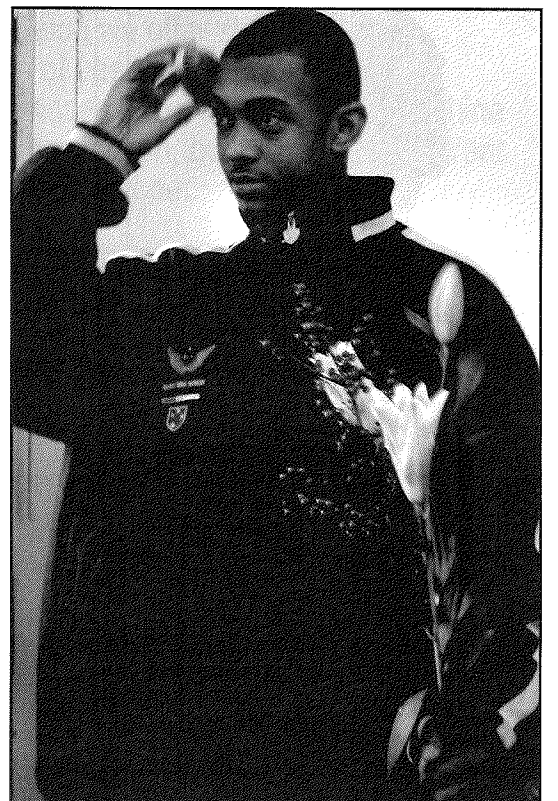


Photo by Hanna Redleaf

**COMBING HIS hair before a date, Zeke knows he's on point with fresh flowers from Cornell Florists.**



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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

## 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. But first he grabs a hand held blood sugar test. After checking his blood sugar level, Andrew reaches 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 coped 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 sugar test before every meal, but I don't really 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. But as I've gotten older I don't really feel that anymore. I've just kept it under control so there aren't any day to day problems."

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 and 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

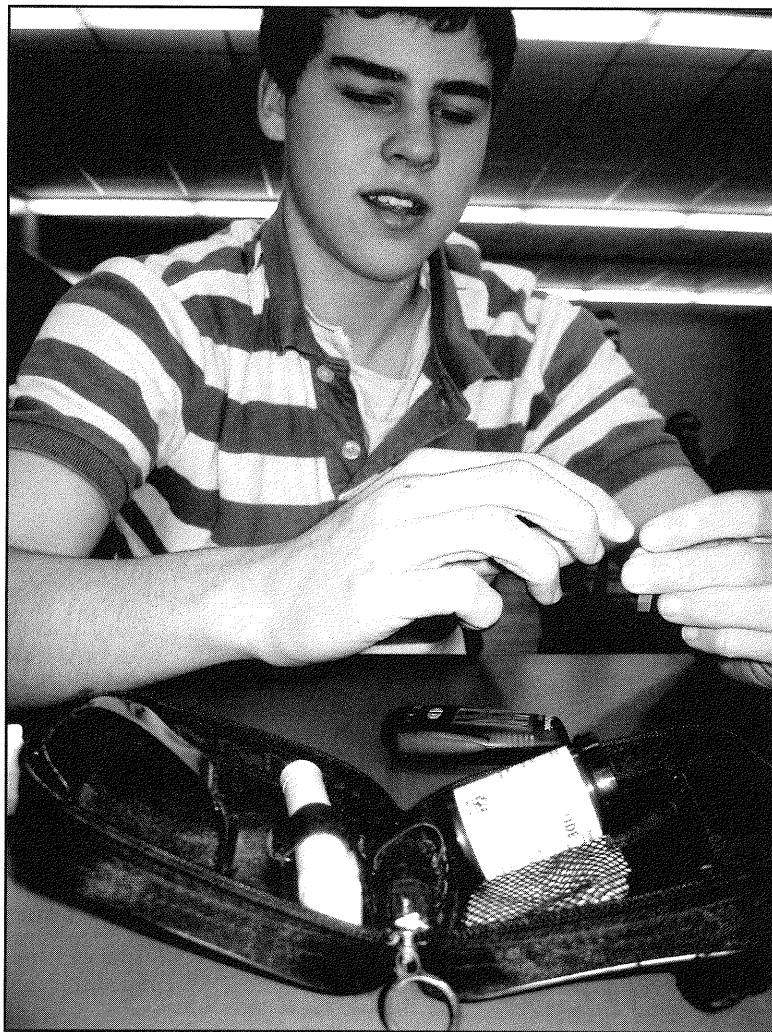


Photo by Hanna Redleaf

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

time, real sugar just started to taste gross. Now all I eat are things with Splenda in it."

U. of 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 parents 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 of the factors of diabetes. The blood sugar level can't be too high or too low."

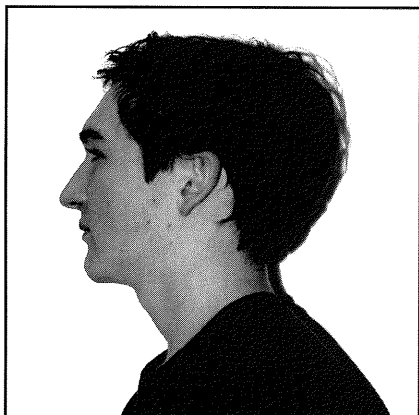
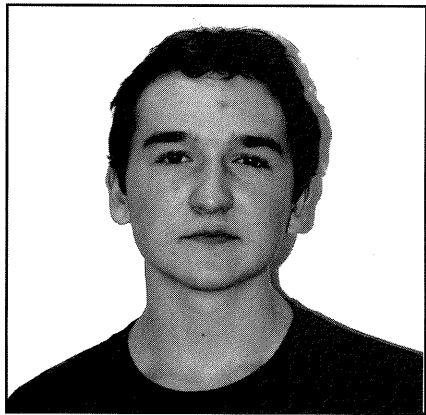
"Usually kids have type one. That means they don't make their own insulin. And, in order not to die, they must take injections of insulin. Type two is very similar but the age of onset is later. Usually I see type two in people well beyond 35 to 40 years old. Sometimes it's treated with diet, weight 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. of C. health care system. I have a primary care giver, a cardiologist, an endocrinologist, a podiatrist, a dermatologist, a group of eye specialists and have 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



Photos by Liwen Xu

*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 poof of odd-smelling smoke. A fellow student believed that Max suffered from lack of Medici made food. After learning of 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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## 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



"I was fortunate to get my license before the restrictive laws set in. I don't feel extending the permit time will actually increase safety."  
—Matt Fitzpatrick, junior



## 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

**A**nnoying. Useless. Unfair. Many U-Highers dislike the revisions to the Graduated Driver License laws passed at the beginning of this year, created by Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White to reduce traffic crashes and fatalities among drivers age 15-20.

Approved by Governor Rod Blagojevich August 20, the revised laws came as a response to suggestions made by White's 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 Safety 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 he 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.



Art by Eric Cochrane

"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 need attention. Issues affected by the revised laws include Safe Ride programs, including one being planned for U-High, cre-

ated 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 5, at Benedictine University in west suburban Lisle.

"We've always placed 1st in the competitions, so I'm not too nervous," said Katherine Zhou, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering cocaptain 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."

The Science Olympiad team will go to Regionals without having attended an Invitational.

"The team applied to participate in the Hinsdale South Invitational, December 15, in west suburban Hinsdale," said Maria Birukova, Science Olympiad cocaptain with David McAlpine. Both are seniors.

"But after receiving no response from the Hinsdale South hosts after several weeks, the hosts finally told us that all of the spots were filled."

David, Maria and Science Department Chairperson Sharon Housinger, faculty sponsor, have decided to hold a mock meet to make up for lost Invitational practice.

"We haven't been preparing the way that we would have, so we're going to have a mock meet with event simulations to catch up," David said. "So far, we've been getting ready for competitions, but not fine tuning for Regionals like we were planning to do after the Invitationals."

## Model U.N.ers win 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:** Christina Verdirame, Hannah Solomon-Strauss, Sydney Small, Amelia Acosta, Maggie Carton, Jenny Harris, Jaya Soh, Muneeb Hai.

**HONORABLE MENTIONS:** Danielle Kutasov, Robert Meyer, Claudia Yang, Malvika Jolly, Julia Solomon-Strauss, Leah Sibener, Mark Wittels, Andrej Rosic.

**COMMENDATIONS:** Don Traubert, Calder Forster-Coulson, Katherine Zhou, Sarah Wald, Karlin Gattton, Sacha Karapetrova.

## SAVE DARFUR

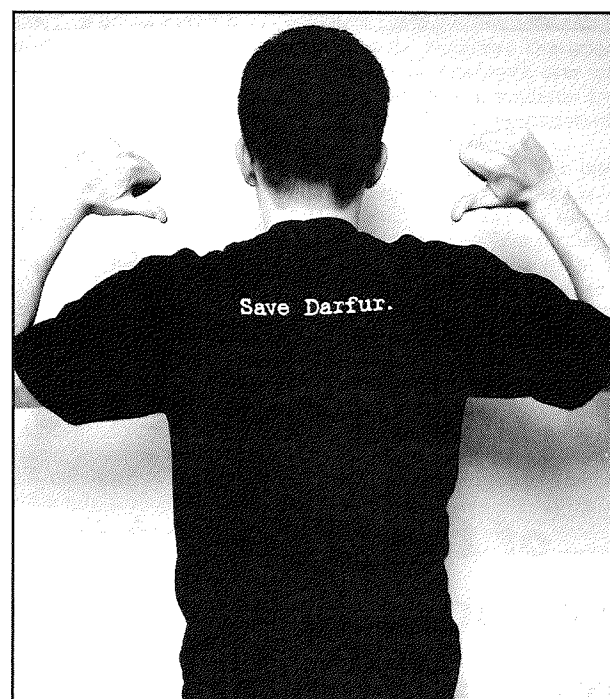


Photo by Eva Jaeger

Thanks to everyone who has donated to the Darfur cause. "Save Darfur" T-shirts in a variety of sizes are available for the next few weeks for \$20. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact Cydney Weiner by phone (312) 479-8222 or by e-mail at [cweiner23@gmail.com](mailto:cweiner23@gmail.com). All proceeds will be directed toward *Save the Children*, an independent organization involved in many efforts to aid the Sudanese who have suffered as a result of civil war. All donations are appreciated.







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*Photo by Eva Jaeger*

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"I was happy to see that Tim continued his winning streak as king."

—Markie Room, senior



## Photofeature 19

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008

# Formal fashion heats up a cold night

**H**eaps 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 Polos.

*Photos by Loren Kole*



**KEEPING IT** classy, Derek Chiampas 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.



**SINGING TO** 50 Cent's "I Get Money," Nisha Duara, Natalia Khosla and Aoife MacMahon kept dancing to the beat even on the crowded dance floor.



**POLKA DOTS** added a fun twist to Chrissy 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 (Soulja Boy)" (top) Lauline Gough and Alex Madara 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.





"We've had our ups and downs, but it's going to end for the Seniors. We're going to be ISL co-champions."  
—Billy Stevenson, senior

# League champion basketball girls head into Regionals

## U-High to host IHSA 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 Upper Kovler, against the winner of yesterday's Kenwood-Tilden game.

Featuring standout sophomore guard Christina Smith, a former U-Higher, 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 Maroons' 21-3 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 16-game winning streak."

Knowledge of fundamentals and tough defense propelled the team to its best season in recent



Photo by Kendall Gordan

**KEEPING HER** team motivated during a January 18 rout of rival Parker at home, Head Coach Meghan Janda evidently succeeded as the team went on to win 70-11.

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:

**Latin School**, December 4, home: Varsity won 50-43; **North Shore Country Day School**, December 8, away: Varsity won 75-35; **Holy Trinity High School**, December 10, home: Varsity won 53-50; **Notre Dame High School**, December 20, away: Varsity won 63-28; **St. Scholastica**, December 21, away: Varsity won 65-38; **Luther North**, December 22, away: Varsity won 57-55;

**Woodland Academy**, January 8, away: Varsity won 58-26; **Francis Parker**, January 11, away: Varsity won 50-16; **Timothy Christian**, January 12, away: Varsity won 50-32; **Francis Parker**, January 18, home: Varsity won 70-11; **Morgan Park Academy**, January 24, away: Varsity won 52-32; **Latin School**, January 25, away: Varsity lost 56-62; **Lake Forest Academy**, January 29, home: Varsity won 52-41; **Morgan Park Academy**, January 31, home: Varsity won 61-24; **ISL Championship**, **Willows Academy**, February 2, away: Varsity won 59-43.

## Boy basketballers to push aggressive playing style

By Denise Akuamoah  
Midway reporter

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

Racking up an 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 play better than we did last time. But if we play our style of game, aggressive defense, up-tempo offense, we should be fine."

Steadily changing up defensive schemes will help confuse Nazareth, believes Zeke Upshaw, junior, cocaptain with seniors Daniel Hornung and Derek Chiampas.

"We take 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 we 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 Carlo 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 number 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 Algee.

"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 got to bond and build team chemistry on our bus trips 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:

**Holy Trinity High School**, December 7, home: Varsity won, 67-50, j.v. won, 46-44; **North Shore Country Day**, December 11, away: Varsity won, 48-40, j.v. lost 34-31; **Walter Payton Prep**, December 13, away: Varsity lost, 52-28; **Lane Technical High School**, December 26, away: Varsity lost, 61-55; **Mather High School**,

December 28, away: Varsity lost 53-52; **St. Benedict High School**, December 29, away: Varsity lost 53-48; **North Shore Country Day**, December 29, away: Varsity won 61-35;

**Lake Forest Academy**, January 8, home: Varsity lost 60-42, j.v. won 51-32; **Francis Parker**, January 11, home: Varsity won 72-45, j.v. won 57-41; **Morgan Park Academy**, January 15, home: Varsity won 62-50, j.v. won 38-21; **Francis Parker**, January 18, away: varsity won 61-34, j.v. won 45-31; **CICS-Elison**, January 23, home: j.v. lost 44-42, freshmen lost 42-39; **Elgin Academy**, January 25, home: varsity won 72-44, j.v. won 55-51; **North Shore Country Day**, January 29, home: varsity lost 59-54, j.v. won 31-28; **Latin School**, February 2, home: varsity won 49-43, j.v. lost 58-53; **Northridge College Prep**, February 5, home: Varsity lost 52-31, j.v. won 55-47; **Latin School**, February 8, away: Results after Midway deadline.

## 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 by Division I schools.

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

U-High photojournalist Joe Boisvert, junior, took the photo that accompanied the story, but did not receive credit for it. A Sun-Times reporter and photographer also visited the school January 19, to create an overall profile of the Athletic Department scheduled to appear in the Sun-Times sometime this month.



Photo by Ramzi Dreezen

**DESCENDING AFTER** a ferocious dunk over a Parker defender during a January 11 72-45 home win, Zeke Upshaw recorded his second triple-double of the year.



"Whatcha gonna do when Wrestling Club runs wild on you?"  
—Aaron Weiss, senior



## New club seeks to clear up wrestling's rep

By Nick Chaskin

Midway reporter

Most people know it's fake. They're not really hitting each other over the head with chairs and shovels, but that doesn't mean 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 lighthearted 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."

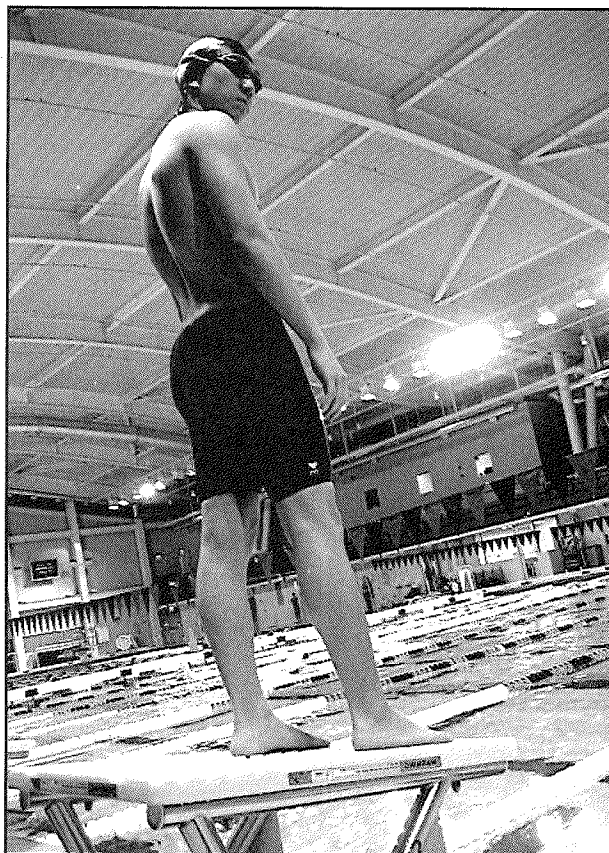


Photo by Yoolim Kim

**SIZING UP** his opposition from Whitney Young, Senior Won Hee Lee prepares to explode off the board into the Myers-McLoraine pool at the Gerald Ratner Center, Wednesday January 23. The Maroons scored a close 85-81 victory over the Dolphins.

Led by Seniors Homer Shew, Michael Miller and Won Hee, who broke his own school record in the 500 Free, January 10 against Saint Ignatius, the boys expect a strong showing at their Sectional meet February 15.

## Swimmers gearing up for Sectionals Friday

By Anna Katia Zbikowski

Associate editor

Focused 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, cocaptain 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 Gunty feels precise workouts will compensate for inadequate depth.

"If we can make even small changes in the stroke, that can take seconds off of their times," Mr. Gunty 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:

**Bremen Pentathlon**, November 30, away: Varsity placed 1st of 6, **Latin/Walter Payton**, December 7, home: Varsity won 121-86-59, j.v. won, 94-88-5, **Northside College Prep**, December 13, away: Varsity lost 82-84, j.v. won, 63-62,

**Morton High School (Cicero)**, January 8, home: Varsity won 109-44, j.v. won 85-50, **St. Ignatius/Nazareth**, January 10, away, Varsity lost 44-131, j.v. lost 71-144-63 **Riverside Brookfield Invitational**, January 12, away, Varsity placed 7th of 9 with 199 points, **Evergreen Invitational**, January 19, away, j.v. placed 3rd of 9 with 213 points, **Whitney Young**, January 23, home, Varsity won 85-81, **Lake Forest Academy**, January 29, home, Varsity won 112-56, **Lane Tech**, January 31, away, Varsity lost 65-96, j.v. lost 53-99, **St. Rita**, February 5, home, after Midway deadline.

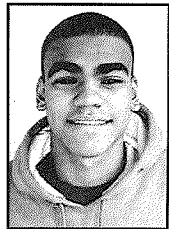
## SPORTS GABE BUMP

### 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.

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



Gabe

Looking at members of U-High sports teams, there isn't a single person resembling Barry Bonds or Jose 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 weighing on 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 are 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.

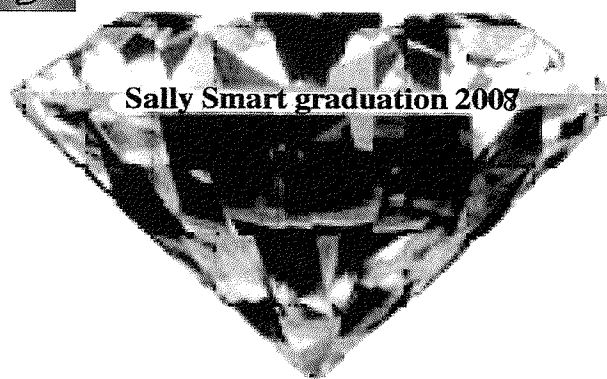
All nine, both male and female, competed in the foil divisions at the tour-

nament, which hosted 304 students from 10 schools fencing in male and female foil, sabre and epee divisions.

Other U-High competitors included: Clare Brody (42nd), Julia Goldsmith-Pinkham (30th), James Grove (34th), Kenan Gungor (21st), Peter Hansen (48th), Alexa Minc (34th), Danny Traub (37th).

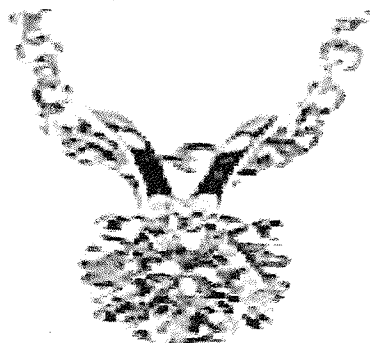


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- Stephen Daiter Gallery
- Daiter Contemporary

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

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