

LOOKING INSIDE

5 ASSEMBLY SALUTES LATE ALUMNUS AND BLUES LEGEND PAUL BUTTERFIELD



Photo by Sydney Marcus

THE MISSISSIPPI HEAT lit up the crowd, February 13 in Max Palevsky Theater.

8 SIZZLING SATURDAY AT SCIENCE EXPO



Photo by George Yates III

CREATING golden rain, a substance composed of potassium and lead, A.P. Chemistry student Yuwen Wu shows off her experiment during Science Expo.

PARENT BLOG ABOUT DANCE AROUSES IRE,

10 GETS DOUSED



Art by Eric Cochrane

A BLOG placed on the Parents' Association website ignited heated discussions among both students and parents before being yanked. Read details and reactions on page 10 and in the centerspread.

ARTSFEST ATTRACTIONS RANGE FROM JAPANESE MARTIAL ARTS TO MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS



Photo by Adam Gelman

LOADED WITH ACTIVITIES ranging from modern dance to baking to the history of wrestling, Artsfest, February 21, offered 74 workshops organized by students, faculty members and visiting artists. To kick off the day, members of the martial arts company Enso performed a dynamic demonstration of Shodokan Aikido in Upper Kovler. The day closed with a selection of show tunes from Broadway musicals performed by the Musical Theatre Skit Club and Bel Canto in Max Palevsky Theater.



Photo by Emily Chiu



Photo by Adam Gelman

Art exhibit to include work by U-Highers

By Isabel del Canto

Midway reporter

Exhibited at Stuart Rodgers (S.R.) gallery alongside art by students from four other Chicago high schools, U-Highers' work will include photographs, sculptures, paintings and drawings.

The exhibit opens Friday, April 18 and continues until Friday, May 2, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday at 375 West Erie Street.

The other four schools, Latin, Loyola, New Trier and Walter Payton, will also submit 10-15 of their best pieces. A committee composed of S.R. staff and other artists will judge the submitted pieces and select at least four from each high school to exhibit in the

show. Seventy percent of the proceeds from the U-High art will go to the Lab Schools Scholarship Fund.

Prizes will also be awarded.

A phone call from Vice President of Sales and Marketing of Stuart Rodgers Photography Holly Rodgers sparked U-High's involvement in the exhibit, according to Fine Arts Department Chairperson John Biser.

"She wanted to know if students would be interested in the idea of presenting their art in an exhibit," Mr. Biser said. "She described the idea to me and asked me to pick some students' work."

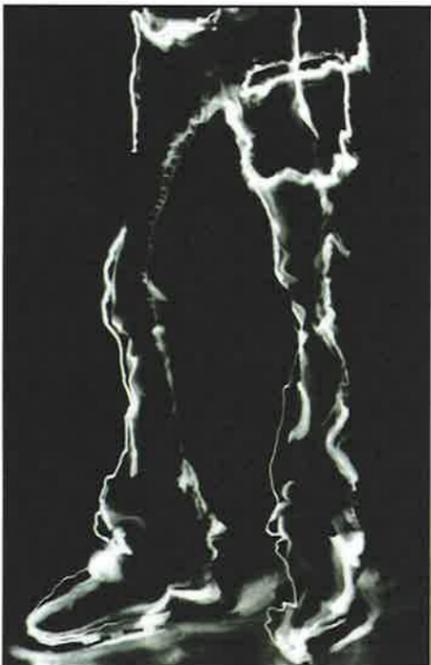
"I knew Ms. Ricketts had previous experience with showcasing students' work, so I wanted to ask her and another high school art teacher for help. I then thought of Ms. Mirentxu Ganzarain who taught two high school classes. My job in this is as the facilitator. I make sure that things are kept going, that deadlines are met, overseeing the whole operation."

Each of the eight students selected by Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts are working with her to pick which pieces to submit.

"I'm selecting one to three pieces from my advanced class students because of their experience," Ms. Ricketts said. "A piece from Mila Devenport was already submitted and will be on the invitation Lab Schools Director David Magill will send to each family in the High School, along with the parents of the current 8th grade class."

"There is a wide range of photography that we do. I think it's important for young students to realize that there is so much to photo. I'm always excited for students to have the opportunity to get their work out of the confines of Lab Schools. Presenting your work gives you confidence and let's others appreciate you for what you do."

An abstract photograph taken for an Advanced Photography class assignment, "Painting with Light" by Mila Devenport uses manipulations of light and shutter speed.



AMONG U-HIGHERS' PHOTOGRAPHS selected for an exhibit at Stuart Rodgers Gallery downtown, this photograph taken by Junior Mila Devenport in the dark, shows Junior Hanna Redleaf's legs as she holds a flashlight to them.



Photo by George Yates III



Photo by Kendall Gordon

MIRRORING each other using their hands in Senior Gretchen Eng's Improv workshop (photos from top), Seniors Sydney Weiner and Alya Forster act out small skits led by Second City Associate Faculty Member Bill Bungeroth.

AFTER developing a creative design with candle wax and a wooden stylus, Freshman Christina Ahme dips her creation in dye at Lower School Computer Teacher Karen Putman's Ukrainian egg painting workshop.

CAPTIVATING the crowd with original hits like "2 Cents," the Super Smashed Bros. electrifies the audience. Senior Zak Smith rocked the microphone, Freshman Sam Frampton jammed on the guitar and Senior John Swank laid down fast beats on the drums.

DELICATELY curving her brush on a wall in the third floor hallway, Sophomore Isabella Prenta along with many other U-Highers, painted a mural over a pencil drawing by Junior Ruiqi Tang.



"Science expo was a chance for younger students to be inspired by our presentation and for us to have fun."

—Andrey Drinfeld, senior

Juniors heading for bonding experience

By Nick Chaskin

Midway reporter

Reflection and class bonding, through small and large group activities, will take priority at Junior Retreat, Wednesday-Friday, April 9-11, at Resurrection Center in far northwestern suburban Woodstock. As in previous years, the Retreat provides a time for students to reflect on their time at U-High, believes Dean of Student Larry McFarlane.

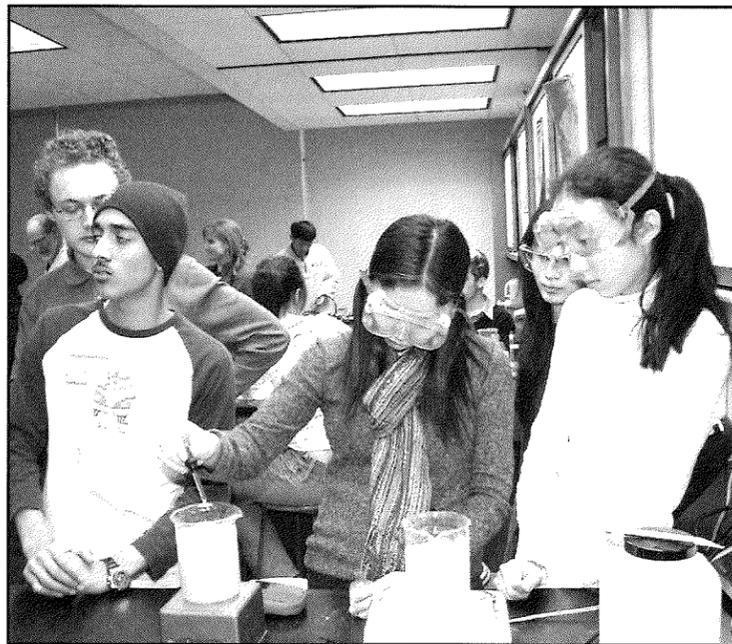
"It has always been one of the more touchy feely retreats that we go on," Mr. McFarlane said. "It's a time for people who may not have been close to their peers to

then become close to them."

Specific activities change from year to year, explained Mr. McFarlane.

"The junior steering committee will go down there beforehand to tailor activities to the specific year," Mr. McFarlane explained. "The students always have a lot of recreational time, as well as some small and large group activities and even some study time. We will have eight to 10 faculty chaperons going on the retreat. We haven't figured out the list yet, but either Mr. Horvat or I will be there the entire time."

Housed two to a room, juniors will dine buffet style during their style..



SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

SHOWCASING THEIR scientific endeavors, students from grades 3 - 12 participated in Science Expo, February 23. In addition to student-led demonstrations, several University of Chicago faculty members, as well as professionals in several fields of study, took part in the annual event.

HAVING PRACTICED (photos from top) the week before in their A.P. Chemistry classes, U-Highers felt confident presenting their experiments. Stephanie Tang changes the color of a chemical concoction while Herur-Raman, Andrey Drinfeld and Katherine Xu observe.

EXAMINING a Lead(II) Nitrate, Potassium Iodide solution as part of A.P. Chemistry's 'Kool Khemistry' exhibition, Ben Picker performs his experiment with poise and charm.



Photos by George Yates

Computer teacher to detail class project at conference

By Alex Kleiman

Midway reporter

Describing an assignment he created for his A.P. Computer Science class to the Association for Computing Machinery annual meeting March 12-15 in



Mr. Franke

Portland, Oregon, Computer Science Teacher Baker Franke will use a lecture and visual presentation to explain his assignment, "Catching Plagiarists." The meeting includes the presentation of eight computer science class assignments created by computer science teachers and professors, according to Mr. Franke. He came up with the assignment when helping a friend

catch students plagiarizing Physics 101 lab reports.

"I'll give a lecture to go along with a keynote presentation," Mr. Franke explained. "I'm worried that after explaining my assignment, someone in the audience will immediately come up with an easy way to solve it that I hadn't even thought of. Since the meeting will consist only of computer science types, I'll only need to dedicate a sentence or two to what the program is and the solutions that students came up with."

"I'll spend the rest of the time talking about why it works as an assignment, which is basically because it makes students think in a broad way and pool all of their computer science skills while it additionally sends a positive message to students about the seriousness of plagiarism."

MEDICI FACT #359



Photo by Alya Forster

PONDERING THE power of the written word, Senior Kat Smolarek carefully chooses her words. What she writes will echo down in generations to come.

Adorned with various written scribbles upon its walls, the Medici offers a unique dining experience of scrawled poems, personal mottos, romantic monuments and etched memories. No place else is the written word so overpowering, so physical, so inspiring, SO TANGIBLE, than at the Medici.

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BSA still working on benefit

By Denise Akuamoah

Midway reporter

Plans for a Black Students' Association school dance with Latin, Parker and Whitney Young for Darfur to raise awareness of genocide in the northeastern African country Sudan may change.

After BSA officers informed Principal Matthew Horvat about the dance, he met with BSA Faculty Adviser Francis Moore-Bond, members of the BSA Dance Committee, and counselors Camille Baughn-Cunningham and Ronald Tunis.

"Logistically, it is hard to get a dance up and running," Mr. Horvat said in a Midway interview.

"Trying to do it with three other schools, which requires the faculty from those schools to meet, would be really difficult. I would say that it is necessary to have a meeting with all the chaperons."

"We couldn't have a school dance unless there was a meeting among the four schools. I don't know what their rules and procedures are. If someone gets hurt or there is some other incident at this dance, who would be responsible?"

"But if there's a dance at U-High either me or the Dean of Students Larry McFarlane is responsible."

"Having a dance that isn't in a facility we are familiar with definitely presents a challenge. At some level I am responsible for the safety of the students of this school."

"If we were to have a dance at some facility other than the gym, I-House, or Ida Noyes, I would have to visit the facility to make sure it is safe."

"I would encourage the BSA to have a dance that is on our campus and figure out a way to invite those students from those schools through the whole guest process where a student can bring four to six guests."

Morocco trip out, French trip in

By Andrew Sylora

Midway reporter

A planned trip to Morocco Spring Break sponsored by the World Languages Department will be replaced in favor of an extended trip to France scheduled for this summer.

Suggested earlier this year by French Teacher Vicki Schneider, the trip to Morocco was to include a community service project in the Atlas Mountains. Conflicts over housing with the tour group as well as concerns about possible actions of Islamic extremist groups active in Morocco forced the trip to cease planning.

"I still would like two trips for French students, one in France and

one that offers a different westerner experience," Ms. Schneider explained. "Morocco has a rich history and I think the trip would be exclusively for the juniors and seniors, as freshmen and sophomores usually go on the French trip during the summer."

"Students had a positive reception when I brought the idea up and we even had one meeting of seven or eight interested students to discuss it before I found out it couldn't be done. I don't want to make it sound like it was the school's fault for blocking the trip."

"Lab Schools Director David Magill supported the trip," Ms. Schneider continued. "It was just that the current situation in Morocco is still a bit dangerous to consider a trip there."

"It was amazing to be in the same room as some of these people and to eat a semi-intimate dinner with the Mexican president."
 —Emily Crane, senior



Photo courtesy of Isabella Prenta

AMONG PROMINENT people at the World Affairs Councils of America conference February 7-8 in Washington D.C., was New York Times journalist Elizabeth Bullimer. Sophomores Isabella Prenta, left, and Alex Fryer were among 25 U-Highers who attended the conference.

U-Highers join world stage at Washington conference

By Sam Frampton
 Midway reporter

Participating in discussions about counterterrorism, U.S. relations with North Korea and Palestinians in Israel, 25 U-Highers attended the annual conference of the World Affairs Councils of America, a network of 84 foreign affairs councils, February 7-8.

Believing that students should be where change is happening, History Teacher Mrs. Andrea Martonffy, who attended in past years, asked WACA to sponsor the trip, making U-Highers the first high school students to attend.

While WACA paid for registration and accommodation, the students, were responsible for airfare. One of seven roundtable discussion leaders, Palestine Liberation Organization representative Afif Safieh's presentation and discussion amazed the students according to Mrs. Martonffy.

"The students that chose to hear him were really impressed," she said. "He compared the condition of Palestinians in Israel to that of the Jews in Nazi Europe. Even those that didn't agree thought it was some of the best speaking they had ever heard."

Attending with about 350 other delegates, including 25 college students, the U-High group was surrounded by policy makers.

"I was surprised by how small the conference was," Sophomore Alex Fryer said. "It was all very personal, we sat

close to the speakers and got to meet them at the end. I thought it would be more like a series of lectures, but they were really open to questions. At one point I was sitting just a few feet from Vicente Fox. When I met him, I even got to talk to him in Spanish for a little bit."

While he looked forward to Afif Safieh's speech, Freshman Joseph Philipson confesses to having skepticism about the other attendees.

"Going into this, I expected to see a lot of wealthy conservatives," he said. "I expected only one demographic that would always agree with the speakers, but it was nothing like that. There was really a wide range of views that made for very spirited discussion. The actual presentations were quite short, so there was plenty of time for people to ask not just about the presentation, but any matter of interest."

"Now that we're back in Chicago, we can use this knowledge to make decisions about our futures. Most importantly, we must make sure to get this knowledge out there."

Other students who attended are as follows:

Adrian Aldana, Henry Bergman, Emily Bieniek, Fraser Brown, Emily Crane, Kayla Ginsburg, Jennifer Glick, Amir Hay, Aleksandra Karapetrova, Nicole Massad, Robert Meyer, Talia Nasr, Lawrence Plaschka, Benjamin Postone, Isabella Prenta, Katherine Reott, Rachel

SPEAKING OF FREEDOM

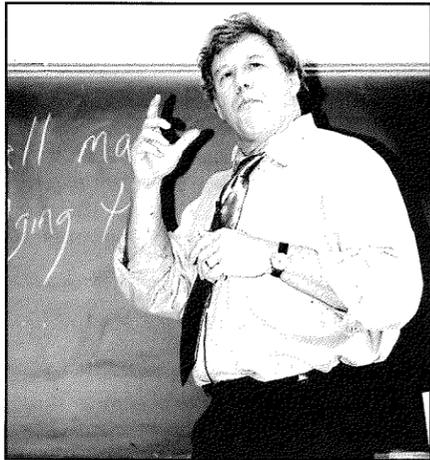


Photo by Liwen Xu

IN WARTIME, the U.S. government has taken away civil liberties granted in the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, especially freedom of speech and ability to criticize the government.

So said U. of C. Law Professor Geoffrey Stone, speaking in a program for Cindy Jurisson's U.S. and A.P. U.S. History classes February 14. The classes had read an excerpt on World War I from Mr. Stone's book "Perilous Times," before his lecture.

Brief-ly

Textbook buying goes on line

For many U-Highers, purchasing textbooks for next fall won't mean they have to leave their house.

Available through the online textbook provider MBS Direct, based in Colombia, Missouri, all textbooks will be purchased through a virtual bookstore the school is still developing, according to Director of Business Affairs Mr. Chris Jones.

Mr. Jones, along with Associate Director Mr. David Stafford and Bookstore Manager Ms. Margaret Gawel chose MBS after researching various online textbook providers.

"For a few years now we've thought about making it so that students and their families could purchase their books online," Mr. Jones said. "The problem was that it was always more expensive for the families to purchase the books online than it was for us to purchase them and sell them in the bookstore. Since that changed it made sense to look into an online system."

"I think one of the benefits of the online system is the ease of access and that the purchases will include shipping. Logistically, it's always been difficult to purchase books over the summer from the bookstore both for the families and the school, so the new system will also make that much easier."

The bookstore will remain open, but will not sell textbooks.

■ **SUBCOMMITTEES MEET**—After breaking up into four subcommittees, the Diversity Task Force canceled its third meeting, February 23, to allow more time for subcommittee work.

Chaired by Lab Schools Board Members Ms. Sonya Malunda, U. of C. Assistant Vice President and Director of Community Affairs and Mr. Andrew Neal, '78 U-High graduate, the groups focused on learning and education, statement writing, student retention and communication.

"The Task Force is currently working with different subcommittees," Mr. Neal said. "The Education and Learning subcommittee is brainstorming ideas to promote the education and learning on issues of diversity at the Lab Schools. The Retention committee is researching retention trends at the Lab Schools while

another subcommittee is working on drafting a Statement of Community Values and a fourth is making sure our work on the Task Force is being communicated to the boarder community."

■ **U-HIGHERS MAKE NEWS**—Two U-Highers made the daily papers two consecutive days last month. Sophomore Michael Angone, who lost a leg to cancer as a baby and wears a prosthetic, was featured on the front page of the Sun-Times February 25 in a feature story inside on embarrassing searches she experiences at airport security and whether they make flying safer for others.

In the Chicago Tribune the next day, Junior Tom Stanley-Becker got major space on the commentary page with a piece on the issue of teen safety and civil liberties. Tom, the Midway's front page editor, developed the piece from an editorial he had written for the Midway. He revised this piece for an assignment in Ms. Cindy Jurisson's A.P. American History class.

■ **NO MORE BULLIES**—Lecturing about safe learning environments and bullying, fifth grade teacher Bob Kass and Hyde Park Day school social worker Laura Thompson, will speak to parents and teachers 7p.m., Monday, March 10 in Judd 126. The topics covered in the lecture will consist of building a stronger approach to bullying and kindness at the Lab Schools'.

■ **PENNY DRIVE**—Raising \$70 as of February 25 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Community Learning Program conducted its fifth annual penny drive..

The fundraiser was sponsored by Community Learning Coordinator Mr. Luis Pascasio, who said he might consider serving another charity next year, Inspiration Café.

"I cannot say either the Leukemia and Lymphoma charity or the Inspiration Café charity is better than the other because they both have different goals and population targets," Mr. Pascasio explained. "The Leukemia and Lymphoma society is about aiding people with the disease and conducting research, whereas, the Inspiration Café is about helping people in the competitive work force."

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4 Team efforts

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008



"Science Team is doing as well as always. We moved up a division and we're doing as well as we did before. We're still winning pretty much everything."
—Abraham Kohrman, junior

Model U.N. heads to Gotham to compete at the real United Nations

By Matt Luchins
Associate editor

Representing Somalia and Angola, 33 Model United Nations delegates will head March 12-15 to U.N. Headquarters in New York City to compete at the National High School conference, the final this year.

Despite representing two small nations, President Jenny Harris, senior, believes the team can win, pointing to the 13 of 15 individual awards won at the University of Chicago conference, January 31-February 3.

"We represented small nations at the U. of C. and did well there," Jenny said. "But there are some challenges to representing them, especially with

Somalia, which doesn't have a recognized government. In real life, these countries don't have much of a voice, so it's not easy to find research or policy directly related to them."

Because Nationals draws schools from around the country, Jenny said she expects strong competition for the top award, Distinguished Delegation.

"I'm looking forward to facing Highland Park High School (from Illinois)," she said. "They're one of our big rivals and we beat them at Harvard. But there are other good schools there too. Last year East Brunswick (New Jersey) won, and Oceanside (New York) and Santa Margarita (California) are always challenging."

Debate Team plugs on despite disappointment of cancelled meets

By Andrew Sylora
Midway reporter

Junior varsity and novice debaters will head to the State Tournament Friday in Belleville.

After winning three meets at Evanston Township, Homewood-Flossmoor and Glenbrook North, the 12 debaters will participate in their seventh meet.

Faculty Adviser Anna Blinstein, Middle School math teacher, noted the team's disappointment in cancelled meets.

"The finals at Kelley High School

were canceled because of the rainy weather that day, and they just ended up calling it a draw," Ms. Blinstein explained. "We also couldn't go to Lane Tech because the organizers overbooked teams and ended up sorting us out."

Captain Elisabeth Morant, junior, hopes to use lost time to research more topics for the State Tournament.

"We're currently going over speech readings we prepared for the last meets as well as doing more research," Elisabeth said. "This is one of the biggest meets of the year, and it's important that everyone do well there."

A ROSE FOR MILADY...PLUS TWO MORE!



Photo by Alya Forster

RAISING \$180 FOR the Senior Prom, seniors sold roses in the cafeteria the two weeks before Valentine's Day, then handed them to the recipients as (we assume) Cupid invisibly hovered. Eva Jaeger, right, a member of the Prom Committee, hands Dana Alfassa three roses. Nice haul, Dana!

Science Team survives surprises to surpass the competition

By Alex Kleiman
Midway reporter

Placing 1st, the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering team dominated Regionals February 7 at Kankakee Community College despite finding after arriving U-High had been placed in a different division.

Winning the division of schools with 300 to 700 students every year, U-High was moved to the over 1,500 student division for Regionals to give other schools a chance to win the division of schools with 300 to 700 students.

The team will remain in the more than 1,500 student division for the March 13 Sectional competition at North Central College in west suburban Naperville.

U-High will switch back to the 300 to 700 student division for the April 15 State competition at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, according to Chemistry Professor Stephen Monts, site coordinator for the Regional WYSE competition in the Kankakee area.

Science Team's other group, Science Olympiad, will also be competing in Regionals, April 5.

Only competing against one school in its division for Regionals, U-Highers

are concerned that the division with schools of more than 1,500 students will make a difference for Sectionals, said Cocaptain Katherine Zhou, senior.

"We were switched for Regionals because we always placed 1st in our division, but it didn't make much of a difference since we only competed against one school, Bradley-Bourbonnais, and still placed 1st," Katherine said. "I think that being in the more than 1,500 student division will make more of a difference for Sectionals, though, because there are usually more teams competing in Sectionals than in Regionals."

Also aiming to give other schools more opportunities, Kankakee Community College is only offering scholarships to students not attending U-High this year rather than giving out a \$1,000 and \$500 scholarship to the 1st and 2nd place competitors, Professor Monts said.

"We decided that we should only offer scholarships to students from local districts because the Lab students weren't really using them, although we don't know whether the local students will use them or not; we decided we would try it anyway. This year the students that placed 7th and 9th are the ones receiving the scholarships."

Math Team takes winning history onto road to State meet

By Rafi Khan
Midway reporter

Bringing home yet another Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional win, Math Team clinched 1st place February 23 at North Central College in west suburban Naperville.

Defeating nine schools in Division 2A, those with fewer than 500 students, U-High will compete in State Finals April 26 at University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana.

"The contests weren't that hard, but it feels good to kick butt," captain Rob Webber, senior, said. "There are three types of contests, individual, team and oral. The individual and team con-

tests are just like math tests, in orals two people explain a problem to judges and get graded. The sum of these makes up the team's score. State isn't as easy as Regionals though, so we're by no means done practicing and getting better."

Training weekly for the Regional and State, U-Highers also prepared for the All-Conference North Suburban Math League meet Thursday in Evanston.

Vying against all 12 division rivals in the last of five meets, the team looks to make up the seven point deficit to Hinsdale Central to take 3rd place.

A victory against Hinsdale Central also moves U-High into 10th place out of 54 schools in the league, a step up from its 18th place finish last year.

UNIVERSITY MARKET: PURVEYOR OF THE SNACK HIGH-LIFE

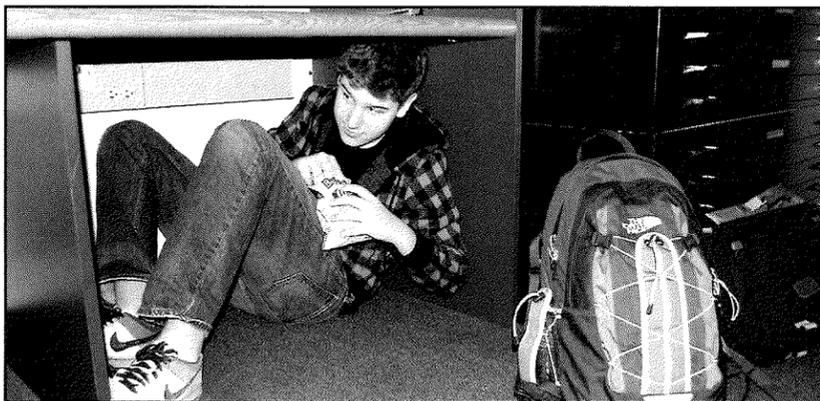


Photo by Alya Forster

Attention snack cravers and scavengers of the High School library: no longer do you have to hide in the dim shadows that lurk about a cold, callous desk. No longer will a librarian seemingly morph from the book lined shelves and hastily scold you for enjoying sugar coated candy. University Market holds no burden for snacking students and serves as an apparently bottomless supplier for their customer's cravings. If only Junior Myles Woerner had known—for now he is forced to live in unenviable fear while feeding on a bag of potato chips, never knowing the feeling of unbridled openness that lies only a few blocks away.

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"We got very good responses from people about the assembly. We were lucky that everything worked out well; maybe Paul's looking down on us."
 -Max Wagner, junior



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



CHARACTER SKETCH AMANDA PAPPAS

Taking on the world with passion for competitive bicycling

TWICE A WEEK, Freshman John Tomlinson slips on his hot pink spandex suit, snaps his shoes to his black racing bike and heads off to school making it just in time for 1st period from his family's Gold Coast apartment.

Committing completely to the sport of cycling, John is ranked 13th nationally and holds the State Champion title in track racing. When he is not wearing a biking suit, John's tall and lean physique sports loose fitted jeans, bright sneakers and a graphic design T-shirt. His laid-back personality and hip-hop inspired sense of style contrasts his determined attitude in racing.

"I started riding three years ago because my family moved to the Gold Coast," John explained. "Since our apartment was being renovated I would take out my mountain bike around the neighborhood. I really enjoyed riding and started doing it a lot. For my twelfth birthday, I got a road bike and it just escalated from there."

JOINING THE biking club XXX Racing-AthletiCo three years ago, Lab Schools lifer John gathers with his teammates every Saturday to ride.

"I live in the city so on the weekends I usually ride to suburbs like Lake Forest with my team," John said. "Depending on the specific suburb, the rides on Saturdays usually take four to five hours. I didn't

have to try out for the club three years ago but this year they started an elite racing team and I made it onto that one. We have about 130 people who are part of the team and about 20 solid racers who always show up on the weekends to race.

"I have a mentor on the team who is 37 who I ride with three times a week, too. Sometimes we cycle together on Saturdays. We usually go anywhere from 60 to 90 miles, which usually takes about three to five hours. My club is pretty unique because we have a 10-year-old on the team and then we also have a 47-year-old. We meet at Wicker Park on the North Side and go wherever the coach takes us."

AFTER ARRIVING home from school, John immediately hops on his bike and starts training. "My coach from the club I belong to usually gives me workouts and e-mails them to me everyday," John

said. "If it's nice outside, I go on the Lakefront. A typical workout would be two to three hours of endurance riding. If I need to go for a shorter ride, for instance two hours, I'll ride on the Lakefront to Hyde Park and back. During the winter, I use a stationary trainer, which pretty much means I hook up my bike to a hook in my laundry room, which applies resistance so I can bike."

Passionate about the sport, John says riding is an escape from his life.

"When I'm on my bike, it takes me away from school and all my other responsibilities," John explained. "It clears my mind and keeps me active. Even if I have schoolwork to do, it usually doesn't click until I'm actually off the bike."

HOPING TO ride in college, John said cycling is a hobby he will continue for the rest of his life.

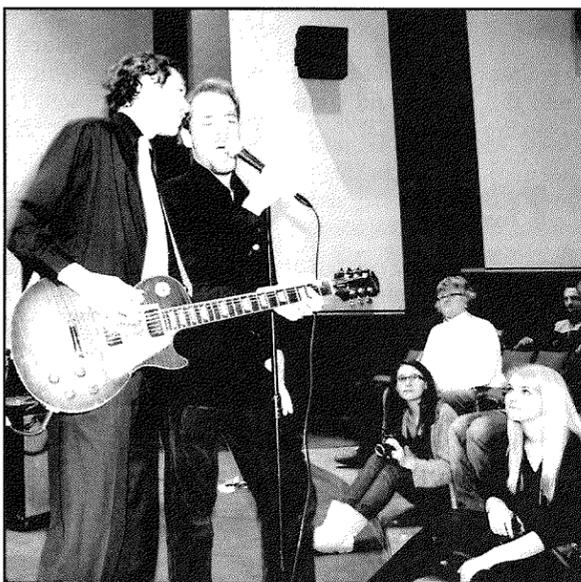
"There are categories in cycling," he explained. "I'm one category away from being 'elite,' meaning I'll be able to go to elite Nationals where I can race against pros. Sometimes I get asked if I ride with my friends but I never have although I'd like to. I'm a pretty normal kid. I like hanging out with friends and going to movies. I'd like to ride in college and become a pro for a couple of years after college."



Art by Eric Cochrane

REMEMBERING A U-HIGHER AND BLUES LEGEND

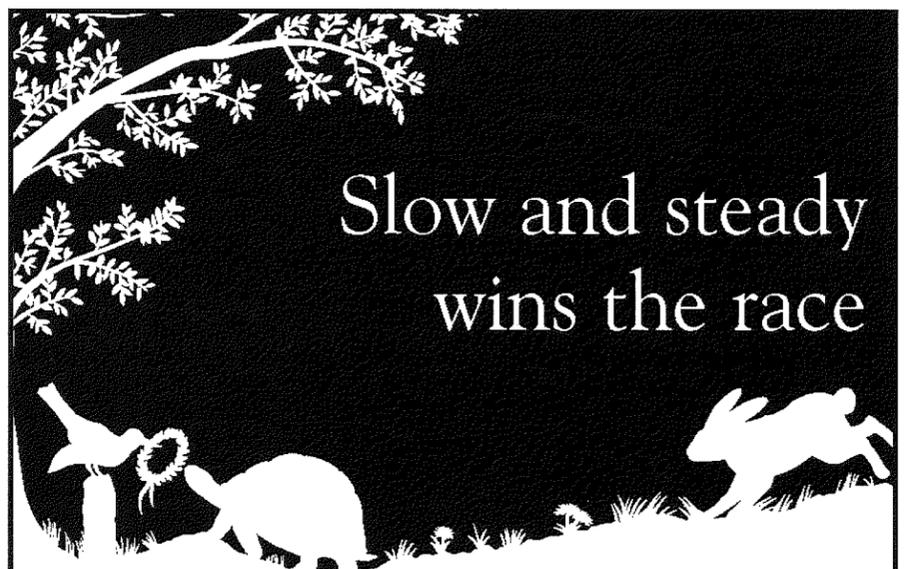
AUDIENCE MEMBERS (photos from top) hand clapped at the all-school assembly as they cheered and sang along to the traditional song "Mystery Train," performed by Ethan Chiampas, Max Wagner, Kevin Brunke and John Swank in Max Palevsky Theatre, February 13, at Ida Noyes Hall. Honoring the late famed blues harmonica player and '60 U-High graduate, Paul Butterfield, the assembly was planned by Max and Kevin as a test run for an eventual full-scale benefit concert next year.



WALTZING INTO Max Palevsky Theatre from the side door while smoothly playing his harmonica, '90 U-High graduate Pierre Lacocque, leader and founder of the Mississippi Heat, captivated crowds at the assembly. His brother and Middle School Counselor Michel Lacocque manages the band. Closing the program, former Lower School Teacher Vickie Kamberos, a classmate and friend of Mr. Butterfield, said, "Paul lived to play music. In High School he had a devious sense of humor and always made me laugh."



Photos by Sydney Marcus



Slow and steady wins the race

Patience has so many rewards

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AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT



Art by Van Miner

Much ado about a dance

There's an old saying that goes: With great power comes great responsibility.

With free periods, retreats and dances, U-Highers find many ways to enjoy the freedom and trust given to them by the school. Yet after Cultural Union's Formal dance, February 2, many parents questioned that freedom, saying the students went too far this time.

Four days after the dance, the three cochairpersons from the Parents' Association High School Council posted a blog on the Parents' Association website. The blog expressed outrage that faculty chaperons didn't stop what the writers considered sexually suggestive dancing. In the following week, students and parents expressed their feelings regarding the authors' statements in 14 comments posted on the blog.

Perhaps the issue is not the allegations made in the blog, but the fact that individuals who didn't attend the dance and didn't see what took place, took it upon themselves to publish uncredited and libelous information. They did this when they stated in the blog that chaperons did not regulate the behavior, when in fact many chaperons said they did break apart students whose behavior crossed the line.

Furthermore, the very title of the blog included the words "Winter Quarter News," sending the message that these claims are indeed news.

Preparing for disaster for real

Disasters are not neat and clean. The February 14 shootings at Northern Illinois University (NIU) attest to this reality. NIU had all possible safety measures to avert tragedy, but it still struck.

At NIU, a former student armed with a shot gun and three hand guns killed seven students attending a lecture. It reminds us that the inconceivable can happen anywhere.

The Lab Schools, like NIU, is also not deficient in security. Doors are locked, guards stationed at all entrances, visitors monitored and given guest tags, and all teachers wear I.D.s. The Lab Schools also holds at least three fire drills each year, the number required by the Illinois School Safety Drill Act.

This winter, additionally, some 60 security speakers were installed around the school, allowing in-

stant communication should an emergency occur. Many students who read the blog said that they felt offended and attacked for behavior that didn't even take place. Others laughed in response, surprised by the reaction to what they considered just dancing.

But whether or not students were dancing provocatively seems secondary. One point of a dance as a social event is to express yourself freely, within the bounds of decent behavior, which seems consistent with the school's mandate for independent thinking. If the school is going to pride itself on responsible freedom of expression, it seems natural that this policy would apply outside the classroom.

Beyond that, the authors suggested tighter control at future dances and retreats, which seems to go against everything that a high school hopes to accomplish for its students: teach them to think for themselves and take responsibility for their actions.

Certainly U-Highers will find themselves at social events similar to Formal and there won't always be people telling them what they can or cannot do. It is the students' job to figure out what they are comfortable with now so that they know how to handle themselves as adults.

Perhaps now is the time to reflect on the trust that exists between U-Highers and the school and time will tell if the students can continue to earn it.

Given all of these security measures, immediately after the NIU attack might have been the perfect time to use these new speakers for a drill. On the other hand, few people knew yet what to listen for or how to respond, so maybe a drill wasn't possible.

This is ironic because fire and other drills here are planned so carefully. Maybe too carefully. Fire drills never seem to happen during lunch, between class periods or after school, when realistically a disaster could happen at any time. Though it is likely that some doors would be blocked in an emergency, the doors are always accessible and even held open. Drills must simulate disasters themselves if they are to prepare students for an actual disaster. Let's remember NIU and start preparing for real.

Midway Mailbox

Another view on the notorious dancing

By Hannah Biskind, senior:

WERE THE DANCE moves at this year's Formal D embarrassing? The attendance of intoxicated students prising? Not at all. So why was this blog posted now?

"Juking" is nothing new. I have witnessed it at every d I've attended at the Lab Schools and have never been fended or embarrassed by it. I don't believe this sty dance is something the school or the Parents' Association should attempt to protect me from.

Students often refer to the Lab Schools as a bubble and cushioning us students is not always beneficial. If high school is about new experiences and preparing for life afterward, censoring dance styles would be counterproductive. And if students are testing boundaries, is there a safer place besides a school function for the inevitable to occur?

Also, high school students are notorious for under drinking and drug abuse. This often happens behind parents' backs, but does the author of this blog expect parents to follow their children around from event to event? would any trusting relationship develop between a parent and child if the parent feels the need to watch their student's every move?

The author of the blog post suggests another mandatory meeting for parents prior to all school dances, similar to one held before Homecoming. Students with parents who did not attend were prohibited from attending the dance. But how are students supposed to learn how to make decisions for themselves if their participation in their school's functions is dictated by their parents' participation in school meetings?

If students are uncomfortable, why not confront a superior? That's why they are there.



Hannah

SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Rohini Tobaccowala

If you had the choice, would you rather be in a cold or warm climate during Spring Break?



Artemis

ARTEMIS KHAZAIE, senior: I'm Greek so my body is naturally prone to warm weather. No, but really, I'd definitely rather be in warm weather. I mean, having part of my body go numb isn't exactly something I enjoy or have grown too fond of. I'm going to France over break and I don't know if I'm going to be warm, but I sure hope so.



Sophie

SOPHIE ORTEL, junior: Every year, my family and I go somewhere cold for spring break and it would feel wrong if we didn't. Last year we went to Wisconsin to snowboard but the hills were not anything like what I'm used to. When I used to live in Vermont, I would go up to Vermont to snowboard for the weekend. I'm hoping that when I go visit colleges on the East Coast we'll have some free time to ride.



Ian

IAN SIMPSON, sophomore: I'd prefer to be in a cold climate to ski and snowboard with friends. I usually go to Colorado for this Spring Break I'm going to Mammoth Mountain in California. I guess you could say that I'm getting the best of both worlds because I'll be able to ski without a jacket.



Julian

JULIAN DU BULET, freshman: I've had three months of really bad weather. I've been miserable. But luckily, I'm going to Mexico for Spring Break, so it will be warm and I'll get to indulge myself in a new culture. I'm excited to eat a lot of salsa and go to parties until the wee hours of the morning. And, I also hear there are hot girls there, so I'm looking forward to that.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Reflections on unexpected disaster

WHILE CANDY hearts and paper Valentines were traded around the country February 14, Northern Illinois University in Dekalb suffered a devastating loss.

A gunman, a former sociology major at NIU, stepped into a lecture room filled with around 200 students and opened fire, killing six students and himself, while injuring 16 others.

The NIU shooting rounded off a week of school-related killings across the nation. On February 8, a Louisiana Technical Institute student killed herself and two peers. In Tennessee, February 11, a student was accused of shooting a student and on February 12, a student in California shot a peer.

But we hardly hear anything about movements trying to stop them. Students are killing fellow students and themselves, but how do they come into possession of the guns and more importantly, where do they find the hate, anger and



Anna Katia

unhappiness to commit such horrible acts?

Message boards under web articles about the shootings, such as those on *MTV.com*, have been filled with comments from people debating gun laws and their effect on society. Some people feel gun laws don't affect how and where people kill each other, while others feel that stronger gun laws would prevent killings such as Virginia Tech and NIU.

Although the shooting in California prompted the creation of a state bill focusing on preventing hate crimes, the federal government doesn't seem to be taking a stand in preventing more shootings. Perhaps we at Lab could better prepare for an event like this.

Certainly there are security guards, but we haven't had any intruder drills at all this school year. With the installation of 60 speakers and recent tragedies, we should do drills to prepare for the unthinkable.

DINING MONA DASGUPTA

All American dining on Chicago's Gold Coast

DIM LIGHTING, friendly servers, Parisian photos on the wall and delicious dining make The 3rd Coast Café a cozy home away from home. The wooden tables and chairs seat more than just diners: artists, writers and book lovers are often seen hunched over with a steaming drink at hand.



Mona

I was introduced to The 3rd Coast, at the center of Goethe and Delaware, four years ago by my friend Dana Alfassa. Ever since then, we visit at least once a week.

With weekend musical performers, the 3rd Coast resembles a jazz cafe. The Café sells the art that adorns its white walls. Third

Coast is currently showcasing black-and-white and color photography.

Making the three block trek from Dana's apartment, we went to The 3rd Coast on a bitter Wednesday last month for dinner. We already knew what we wanted to order, but decided to glance over the menu anyway. Classic favorites include the Baked Chevre, the Dutch Club Sandwich and Angel Hair Pasta.

We began our dinner with warm Chai Tea Lattes. Since the Café serves breakfast all day, Dana ordered her favorite steak and eggs dish with hash browns.

I went for the lighter Nutty Waldorf Salad, accompanied by toasted bread with goat cheese spread over it. Both dishes



Photo by Eva Jaeger

NOSHING AT the 3rd Coast Café, Dana Alfassa and Mona Dasgupta share delicious classic food.

are priced under \$10.

After clearing our plates, we couldn't resist ordering the Ghirardelli Brownie Sunday to split. We chose single scoops of mint chocolate chip, vanilla and chocolate ice creams to top the gooey brownie.

Before leaving, we purchased Signature Third Scenes for the next morning.

■ THE 3RD COAST CAFÉ: 1260 North Dearborn Street, 312-649-0730. 7 a.m. – midnight, Monday – Sunday.

MUSIC ROBIN SHAPIRO

Why a flawed album topped the sales charts

DON'T EXPECT "Banana Pancakes."

In his fifth studio album, "Sleep Through The Static" (Brushfire Records), guitarist and vocalist Jack Johnson kept the laid back, soothing lyrics and mood of his classic albums "Brushfire Fairytales" and "In Between Dreams." As a 32-year-old father, Johnson sings about what he knows best: his family.

The lyrics, although not especially impressive, reflect somewhat of a new angle from Johnson when he references the Iraq War and the death of his late cousin in the track, "Angel." Johnson also introduces a new sound in "They Do, They Don't" and "All At Once" when he picks up an electric guitar. But don't expect rock star material since, for the most part, "Sleep Through The Static"



Robin

keeps the typical Jack Johnson carefree spirit without much room for variation.

Furthermore, it seems keyboardist Zach Gill and drummer Adam Topol stay on a tight leash, falling short of spectacular in their role on the album. The great aspects of his previous releases show in jams like "Bubble Toes" and "Sitting, Waiting, Wishing." And, although Johnson experiments with an electric guitar, "Sleep Through the Static" lacks that old spice we get from his former albums.

But let's not nit-pick at Johnson. His laid back sound forever soothes the ears, even if his lyrics do lack greatness. "Sleep Through The Static" may not be a classic, but Johnson doesn't fail to give us that calming sound we're sure to crave from him. It might be simple, but it works.

Wake me when it's over please

THE FEELING always makes its scheduled route. Somewhere between the clear lines of light and darkness, it runs its course through bleary eyes and growing exhaustion within the student heartland.

Past the unintelligible teacher, it plows relentlessly further through mounting rest approaching a welcomed destination. The dreamland tunnel provides a hasty disembarking on sleep station, more often than not quickly relenting to the light as a distant ringing calls back from hard reality.

Because of not enough sleep, many high school students around the country find it hard to stay awake in class, provoking debate as to whether or not school should start later. In a January 14 New York Times article, Nancy Kalish writes that the sleep-inducing hormone melatonin remains in a teenager's system until 8 a.m. The article continues with various statistical anecdotes, including the appearance of better grades, higher attendance at schools whose schedules run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. or later.

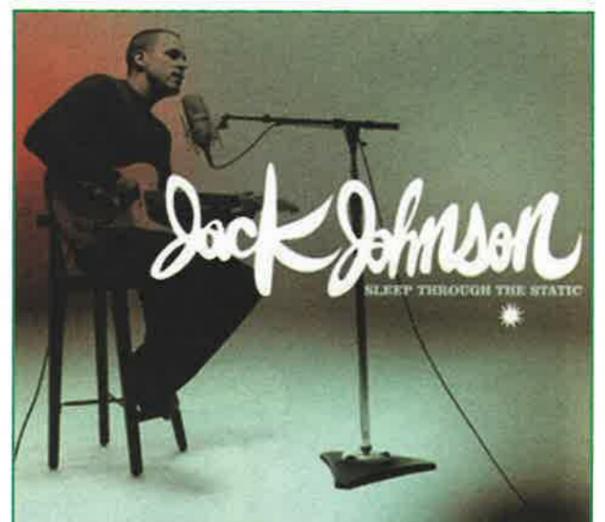
Parents might conclude that going to bed earlier would net the same results as the time lengthening but research proves that melatonin does not begin producing until 11 p.m. Although a longer school day offers a less hurried learning pace for our 21st-century educational needs, it also seeps into our afternoon free time.

The sacrificial slashing of the morning hours seems a better substitute than an additional two-hour afternoon. But we have little merit to worry about a future schedule rearranging. U-High boasts classes long dismantled in other schools and continues to provide a varied music and arts program. If anything, the school lengthening would hope to counteract the daily memorizations in preparation for standardized tests and reiterate the in-depth concepts of learning in underprivileged schools. All that remains is to survey the situation in bias and clouded judgment: Working 9 to 5 sounds too much like a job and the current atmosphere already feels like a confining cubicle.

As for the reliable solution for those less well off, call me up in dreamland when it comes to pass.



Kyle



BUYING ILLEGAL cassettes and wearing American clothes, Marjane Satrapi rebels against an oppressive government in "Persepolis."

FILM JULIE CARLSON

An Oscar loser still well worth taking time for

MIXING A LESSON in Iranian history with a coming-of-age story sounds risky, but "Persepolis" pulls it off. After going into limited release in the United States late last year, the animated French film has recently garnered critical and commercial attention, even receiving an Oscar nomination for Best Animated Feature Film. Despite losing to the Disney hit "Ratatouille," "Persepolis" still can be seen at select Chicago theaters.

Adapted from Marjane Satrapi's graphic novels of the same name, "Persepolis" tells her autobiographical story about growing up during the Iranian Revolution of the late 1970s. As an outspoken child in Tehran, Satrapi witnesses the overthrow of a corrupt government and the murder of family members before her parents ship her off to school in Vienna. When she returns to Iran years

later, her rebellious nature inevitably leads to trouble. The film consists mostly of black and white flashbacks, as an older Satrapi narrates the story. The comic book styling surprisingly does not detract from the plot's deeply serious nature.

In fact, it beautifully enhances the story. The drawings become less whimsical when Satrapi ages, showing that the idealistic views she had of her country in childhood have been gradually erased.

Overall "Persepolis" is a sweet and sour film, elegantly telling the somber story of a country torn apart by violence through the amusing viewpoint of an inquisitive aging girl.



Julie



"Music has helped me meet a lot of people and become more confident."
—Linnea Madsen, senior

PLAYERS in the BAND

*(ORCHESTRA, Symphony or DVO)

Music takes U-Highers far as part of performing groups

By Anna Katia Zbikowski
Associate editor



Photo by Ramzi Dreesen

AMONG MANY U-HIGHERS who play with area orchestras and symphonies, Senior Robert Strickling practices for Protégé Philharmonic. He began trumpet in 5th grade.

Playing around 20 concerts in China and Korea last summer with the Midwest Young Artists, Junior Josie Mintel visited cities such as Beijing, South Korea and Shanghai, sightseeing and staying with a host family. Josie is one of many U-High students who participate in orchestras and chamber groups outside of school.

In addition to daily two-hour practices, Josie, who began violin 14 years ago, drives an hour-and-a-half to Fort Sheridan, Illinois each Saturday to play with the Midwest Young Artists, an orchestra featuring students from around Chicagoland.

"I have to find time to practice, it's a balancing act between homework and orchestra," Josie said. "A lot of kids in MYA are home schooled or have special arrangements with their public schools to leave early to go practice. I stretch myself, but music is my passion."

"My former teacher of 12 years, John Borg, is a huge inspiration to me, he emphasized loving music first and talent will come later, it's not about being at the top."

Singing, in addition to playing music, Senior Linnea Madsen began violin when she was 3 years old. Participating in several groups since then, including the DePaul Orchestra and various chamber groups, Linnea said she'd rather play at a summer farm-

er's market on the Gold Coast because she is able to connect more with the audience.

"I play at weddings, funerals, bridal showers and birthday parties with a group, we get together once in awhile to practice," Linnea said. "I play at a farmers market and it's amazing. It's a more gratifying connection with the audience, meeting new people. We've become part of the farmers' market."

Although she originally wanted to play the drums, Senior Yoolim Kim, ended up playing cello in Middle School, and now plays the instrument in the CYCO (Chicago Youth Concert Orchestra.)

"I like the repertoire and the social aspect of an orchestra," Yoolim said. "It's a way to meet new people and it's a great experience. I'll probably play in college, but I didn't go looking for an orchestra when I applied. Sometimes it's a hassle, but you gain so much from being in an orchestra, mentally and socially."

Previously taking classes at Merit School of Music in Greektown before auditioning for the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, Senior Rob Strickling joined the youth orchestra Protégé Philharmonic two years ago.

"I started Protégé as a sophomore, before that I had done jazz bands at Merit. I decided that I wanted to tap into a higher repertoire and tried out for CYSO" Rob said. "I didn't have time for CYSO so I ended up doing the Protégé Philharmonic. I'm not going to major in music, I wouldn't make a career of it."

"I stretch myself, but music is my passion."

—Josie Mintel, junior

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Teachers put talents on stage, too

By Rohini Tobaccowala
Associate editor

As the beat of African music pulsed through the "Sons d'Hiver Festival" in Paris February 14-17, Orchestra Teacher Tomeka Reid plucked and bowed the strings of her cello with 24 other musicians of the Advancement of Creative Music, founded in Chicago. Ms. Reid is among faculty members who participate in chamber groups, symphony orchestras or solo performances.

Playing a concerto written by the Cofounder of the Advancement of Creative Music and Director of Great Black Music Ensemble, George Lewis, a trombonist and '69 U-High graduate, Ms. Reid said playing with the group allowed her to use new repertoire and improvisation. Ms. Reid also performs with the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic, a 50-member orchestra that specializes in Jazz arrangements and the Chicago Sinfonetta, a symphony that plays classical and gospel music.

"Being a part of other music groups is important to me because it keeps me playing and practicing what I'm teaching. Both help feed each other because out there on the stage I know what people's expectations are so I can relate that to my students. When I was in college, none of my professors emphasized the importance of rhythm. Being in music groups allows me to teach what I learn to my students."

Substitute teaching in the Middle School Orchestra at the Lab Schools before teaching Chemistry M and A.P. Chemistry, Science Teacher Daniel McDonald plays the violin and viola in the DuPage Symphony, the University of Chicago Orchestra and the Park Ridge Fine Arts Festival Orchestra, all conducted by his wife, Barbara Shubert.

"I had originally retired from science and then came into music," Mr. McDonald said. "So, I started subbing for former orchestra teacher Mrs. Basa, who had gone on maternity leave. People at the Lab Schools learned that I had a background in science, so I became a chemistry teacher. But music has always been my passion. I've been in these orchestras between 21 to 31 years so I've really been able to take part in something that I enjoy and get paid for while still continuing my degree in science."

Performing pieces by Copland, Bernstein and Gershwin with the Lake Shore Symphony at Northside College Prep School March 30, Orchestra Teacher Rozalyn Torto practices the viola daily and plays in concerts every few months.

"I've been playing for the symphony for about a year now," Ms. Torto explained. "We usually perform at Northside College Prep and there's usually always some sort of theme. This year's it's American inspired-music by American composers. Prior to this year, I had to take a break because I had to take care of my son, but now that he's older I have a lot more free time."



Ms. Reid



Mr. McDonald



Ms. Torto

"Completing my photo essay was an opportunity for me to see the processes of artists who work in other art forms than my own."
 -Loren Kole, sophomore



SHOOTING IN Mr. Brian Wildeman's Advanced Drawing and Painting class, Loren dubbed this photo as her favorite. "This image really expresses the valuable connection between teachers and students," Loren said. "It's midway in a student's developmental process because he or she

gets input from the teacher. Van Miner's body language and intense facial expression shows that he was very intent on absorbing what Mr. Wildeman said and transferring it on his work. In addition, I think the picture also shows the respect students give to teachers."

Capturing the creative process

In its last four issues, the Midway will be spotlighting four photo essays by photojournalists, assigned as class projects by Photography Teacher Ms. Liese Ricketts. This issue spotlights Sophomore Loren Kole.

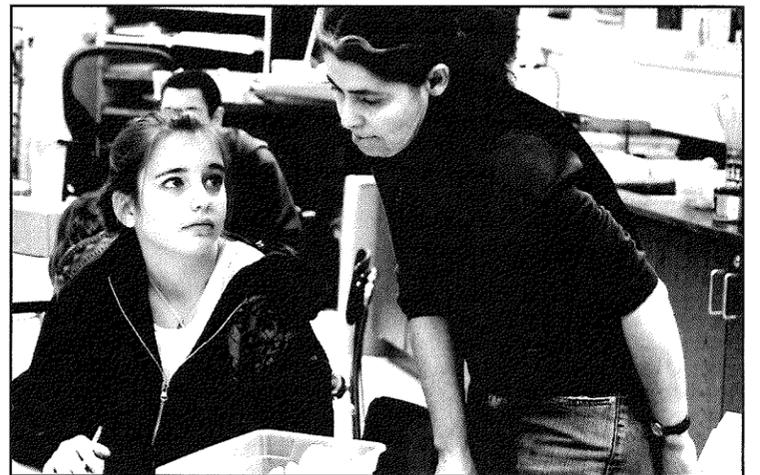
Assigned to cover an aspect of U-High life, Loren chose to capture the developmental process of students in visual arts, focusing on teacher and student interactions.

"This topic transfers well to photography because it captures someone's creative process," Loren said. "My job is to capture something that eyes can't see and convey how people's work are influenced by their personalities and their medium of creating art."

For two months, Loren took shots in Beginning Photography, Sculpture, and Advanced Drawing and Painting classes for her photo essay.

"I think U-Highers don't focus enough on art and the work people put in for their pieces," Loren explained. "I hope that from seeing the developmental process of creating art, people will appreciate others' work more and even learn from it."

-By Ruiqi Tang



"I FIND this one compelling because of Marrison Miles-Coccaro's facial expression," Loren explained. "She has a strong, inquiring look. I thought it was a great photo to show the teacher and student dynamic."



"THIS DEPICTS students' work and everyone's comments on their photo in Mrs. Liese Ricketts' 8th period Beginning Photography class," Loren said. "It shows how engaged people were when offering insights to Jonathan Jou's photos."



"I TOOK this in Mrs. Mirentxu Ganzarain's 8th period Sculpture class," Loren said. "It was interesting because it showed how devoted Pilar Duplack was to her work. I took several pictures of her and I don't think she even looked up once."



"THIS WAS taken in Mr. Wildeman's Advanced Drawing and Painting class," Loren said. "It was interesting to see how focused Ellie Easton was. She was working with construction paper and trying to imprint some designs and didn't notice me at all when I was taking pictures."

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Photo by Loren Kole
 LOOKING SMOKIN' with her dramatic bangs, Senior Katherine Volks is ready to make a splash this Spring Break.



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10 Current events

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008



"I thought Formal was a success despite the bad things that were said about it."

—Alya Forster, senior

Student press censorship continues with new cases

By Graham Salinger

Associate editor

While the Midway has run into little controversy after printing stories dealing with virginity, race relations and homosexuality, other high school newspapers nationwide have continued to run into freedom of speech issues over the past year as administrative censorship of both high school and college press has continued.

Last month in Franklin, Indiana, an article about safe sex in the *Electron*, Franklin Community High School's newspaper magazine, received a negative reaction from the community. In response, Principal Craig McCaffrey declared that he planned to read each issue before publication, explained *Electron* Editor-in-Chief Ricci Warwick, senior.

"He said that the community had problems with the article," she said in a phone interview. "He felt that not all the perspectives were included in the article and that if kids had 8-year-old siblings it would be inappropriate for them. He also said that we were infringing on the rights of parents to teach their children about sex."

STAFF MEMBERS presented a case to the School Board defending their right to free press, February 11, during which they referenced *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, a 1969 Supreme Court case ruled that students have the same rights in school as out.

"We read a statement that made it clear what the law said and why the decision would be going against Board policy," Ricci said. "We also discussed the Supreme Court ruling of *Tinker* and told them that we were willing to hear from our principal about what kinds of things should be included in the paper but that we don't want him reviewing the content."

Also last month, the Supreme Court decided not to hear the *Smith v. Unified School District*. The case began after then Senior Andrew Smith wrote

an editorial about reversed racism that upset the Navato High School community, in Navato, California, in 2002. Andrew sued the school in 2005 but the Marin County Superior Court ruled not to hear the case and it was finally taken to the Supreme Court by the school.

"**THE FIRST AMENDMENT** is a different standard than from our State Constitution," explained Mr. Paul Beard, Andrew's attorney. "The First Amendment has been narrowed over the last 30 years and students are having less and less rights. Our state standard incorporates the rights of adults on campus to students. Our case was only the third case to determine the relevance of this statute. The courts have interpreted that students have broad rights especially with politically sensitive speech."

"With the California statute we were looking at three restrictions on speech, absentee, defamation and incitement. Our case was the first to look at incitement. I don't think that congress has the authority to legislate on speech on such local issues. It would be great if all students had the same freedoms of speech as they do in California and if all states promoted freedom of speech as opposed to take it away."

A now famous instance in which a newspaper's freedom of press was tested occurred last year in Woodlan, Indiana, when Woodlan Junior-Senior High's newspaper Adviser Amy Sorrell left the school after community outrage over a column encouraging the tolerance of homosexuality. Mrs. Sorrell now teaches English and Journalism at the Keystone Schools, in Keystone, Indiana.

"**I THINK** the only thing that tarnished the school's reputation was their reaction," Mrs. Sorrell explained. "We just see it time and time again. For example at Heritage High, where my son goes, there was a racial incident and the district just put their foot in their mouth. They have hired a p.r. person though so maybe that will help them out."

Garnering too much power in determining what



Art by Eric Cochrane

speech is appropriate, school administrators need to become stronger advocates for students, according to Mrs. Sorrell.

"As soon as we hear about schools doing great things, we also hear another case of principals doubting the right of student speech," Mrs. Sorrell said. "I worry about principals supporting free thought because that is one of the things kids need before getting done with high school and going out into the real world. There is very much this us against them mentality."

"I think that principals that support student journalists are afraid to stick their necks out. In my case I don't think the censorship came directly from the principal. I think it came from the superintendent, and the principal just didn't have the guts to stand up."

Complaints about dance stir more complaints

By Gabriel Bump

Associate editor

Instead of heated discussions about the derogatory nature of a blog posted on the Parents' Association website, four days after this year's Formal, few people took it seriously.

Posted by the three High School Council Cochairpersons—Ms. Nila Barnes, Ms. LeAnn Gariti and Ms. Lynn Stevenson—the blog focused primarily on a form of dance called "jukiing" occurring at Formal. The authors of the blog referred to jukiing as "sexually offensive." The blog placed blame on the chaperons for "making no effort to stop it," when chaperons say they did break up some couples, which makes the blog liable.

The blog also included references to students ditching assemblies to participate in "illegal activities." The

cochairpersons eventually removed the blog because of negative reactions, though complaints from parents influenced the blog in the first place, according to Mrs. Stevenson.

"Several parents called the members of the council and complained," Ms. Stevenson said. "The intent of the blog was to create an open stream of ideas. We met with Principal Matt Horvat and discussed the comments. One idea we touched on was having separate dances for underclassmen and upperclassmen, because it seemed as though it was mostly underclassmen parents writing the comments on the blog."

"We know that it wasn't handled properly. In hindsight, we should have not put these things in the blog without talking to Mr. Horvat or the administration. But I think a whole lot has been made out of this, there are things going on in the school that deserve more attention."

Despite the blog's harsh language, Principal Matt Horvat feels the parents' reaction is reminiscent of his own teenage years.

"I remember watching 'Soul Train' and my mom would come in and tell me to turn it off," Mr. Horvat explained. "There is that historical context for my generation 'The Bump' was the dance older people thought was offensive. Students that go to schools are a byproduct of a lot of things: media, family and friends. Now friends and family are the constant, while media is related to the culture."

"For the adults it's not a social event, it's work. Personally, I don't like chaperoning dances but I have to. It's not like attending a basketball game, where you're more involved in what's going on. But I have broken up people dancing that I think are going over the top. There's a level of acceptability."

The line between acceptable dancing and going over the top is almost impossible to distinguish nowadays, feels Dean of Students Larry McFarlane.

"I'm not sure what is appropriate anymore," Mr.

McFarlane, said. "I think jukiing has become more universal than it has in the past. It's certainly more acceptable to students, due to channels such as MTV. When I went to high school in the '60s, you probably would be thrown out on the street if you were seen jukiing. But times are changing."

"We don't have fights, we don't really have theft, but we have some people who drink and some people getting high. Jukiing might be offensive to some people but drinking and smoking are illegal."

"I'm not saying that there isn't reason for concern when it comes to jukiing, but I don't think the student body is thinking of it as sex on the dance floor."

Though the blog placed blame on the chaperons for not intervening with students jukiing, Chaperon Chris Harper feels jukiing at this year's Formal was less prominent.

"It's funny because this dance students seemed to be doing more dancing by themselves," Mr. Harper said. "There wasn't that much grinding. I remember the first dance I chaperoned here I saw some of the dancing and went 'whoa.' But I did look at some folks and say 'c'mon, keep your mind about where you are.'"

"I can definitely understand the parents concerns. There were the same concerns when I was a student here. But because none of the parents were there, it's difficult to understand exactly what base they deem as inappropriate."

"In addition when students were dancing inappropriately I witnessed chaperons break them up. I also broke people up."

While some U-Highers may find jukiing offensive, Cultural Union President Alya Forster, senior, feels that dancing at Formal was not different from past years and the blog represented more fiction than fact.

"The information was so outrageous that I found it hard to take seriously," Alya said. "It's unfair to make up such dramatic things. If someone read that and didn't attend the dance, they would think it was accurate."

"We haven't made any plan to respond to the post because it's not worth it. I can see how people can feel uncomfortable about jukiing. If the person still has a problem with it, they should try and address it in a more civil way. It's very immature to attack students if you're an adult and it's also disrespectful to say the chaperones weren't doing their jobs."

Because the blog could potentially jeopardize future dances, Black Students' Association President Artis Lewis, senior, feels the blog was more than just controversial.

"As BSA president we are planning a Dafur benefit dance scheduled for April 5," Artis said. "We were expecting challenges, because of the blog, through the process of organizing our dance. But it is still running just as smoothly as before."

"Things were said without facts. It's important that it was raising awareness about the drinking and smoking, but it's bittersweet. It's raising awareness, but at the same time it's hindering future dances."



Photo by Joe Boisvert

MORE THAN half of the dancers who attended Cultural Union's Formal February 2 were seen imitating popular choreography to trendy hip-hop songs instead of jukiing, one chaperon told the Midway. Moving to "Crank That (Soulja Boy)", from left, Branden Zollar, Symone Buckner, Droffil-C Johnson, Alexis Madara and Lauline Gough grooved to the upbeat song.



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EXHIBIT A EXHIBIT B



RIDING IN uninhibited pleasure, Junior Stephen Heinz exploits the traditional usage of a Wheels & Things bicycle.



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EXHIBIT C



Photos by Eva Jaeger

AFTER RIDING for numerous hours on his bicycle, Stephen turns his bike into an efficient resting abode.

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"We had high expectations for ourselves at the beginning of the season. We reached those after winning the regular season ISL title."
—Mark Warner, junior

Basketball teams take it right to the limit

Boys get to Regional Semis

By Gabriel Bump
Sports editor

Conference championships along with early exits from state competition, defined a winter season filled with mixed emotions.

Ending its season with a loss to Glenbard South in the Regional Final, February 15, the girls' varsity basketball team compiled a 22-4 overall record.

DESPITE LOSING to fierce Independent School League rival Latin, January 25, breaking their 18 game winning streak, the Maroons secured their place in the Conference Championship with a slamming victory over Morgan Park Academy, January 31. The lady basketballers went on to defeat Willows Academy, February 2, claiming their first Conference crown in 20 years and marking their first ISL finish over Latin in nine years.

These feats, along with the team's 10-1 ISL record, came with help from a few strokes of chance, believes Head Coach Meghan Janda.

"We got lucky at some points," Coach Janda said. "Gabbie got injured and she was a big part of our team, but Lucy made a recovery from her injury around the same time. So things went smoothly. I've been here for eight years and it has never been more exciting to come to a game."



Photo by Ramzi Dreessen

ELEVATING OVER a driving Eagles point guard, Senior Markie Room blocks the shot against Jones February 27.

Racking up a 16-12 overall record, the boys' varsity basketball team took 3rd in the ISL behind North Ridge and Lake Forest Academy. Though the Maroons ended their season with a respectable 53-59 loss to Jones College Prep during overtime in Regionals, February 27, the Maroons fell short of preseason goals because of adjustments to their playing style, according to first-year Head Coach Troy Caldwell.

"Overall it was an improvement from

last year," Coach Caldwell said. "We did fail to achieve some of our goals. One goal was to win ISL, but we finished 3rd. Out of our 12 losses this year, about nine were by five points or less."

"**IT WAS** an adjustment year. We were playing a more up tempo style of play than last year. So there were some growing pains, but I really appreciate the team's willingness to learn. I'm a different coach than Ashlaw, so we had to adjust."

With Coach Caldwell hired right before the start of the season, Senior Dan Hornung, cocaptain with Senior Derek Chiampas and Junior Zeke Upshaw, feels that the team needed more time to learn the new playing style.

"If we would have been more use to the playing in his system some of those losses might have been wins," Dan said. "That's not a knock on Coach Caldwell or anybody else; that's just the situation we were put in. We had some really good games in there; we just didn't put things together. We didn't always pay attention to detail."

"**THE BIG THINGS** are there. We have four or five scoring options on offense. But there were times down the stretch when the little things hurt us, such as costly turnovers."

Securing the ISL Championship with a victory over Elgin Academy, February 9, j.v. ended its season with a 21-3 overall record.

Ravaged by the loss of six dancers, Dance Team suffered from a lack of cohesiveness and leadership, according to Senior Sage Mahoney, cocaptain with Senior Angie Maciel.

"I was sad that the season ended the way it did and that a lot of my close friends quit the team," Sage said. "I think there was a lack of overall unity and the fact that the coaches weren't at every game made it hard."

"**BECAUSE WE** lost so many girls and a lot of people on j.v. couldn't make it to all the practices, we ended up having to combine the two squads. Even though we were missing a majority of the team for the last dance, we purposely tried to have a lot of energy to make up for it. We wanted to go out with a bang."

"We didn't have time to make up a new dance so we decided to perform one that Denise and Annchellie had choreographed and that we'd performed before. It was my favorite dance because the music was so upbeat."

Capping their season with a 4th place finish at Sectionals, boys' varsity



Photo by Ramzi Dreessen

IN THEIR final match against Jones College Prep during the Regional Semifinal, the Maroons lost in overtime 53-59 to the Eagles, February 27 in Kovler Gym.

swimmers relied on team unity to compensate for low numbers, according to Homer Shew, cocaptain with Won Hee Lee and Michael Miller. All the captains are seniors.

"We had really good chemistry," Homer explained. "A lot of seniors fell out after a few weeks. They weren't ready to make the commitment. It was rough for a few meets. At Northside, if we had more people we could've clinched the win."

ONLY TWO MEETS into the season as of Midway deadline, indoor track is maximizing its individual talents to match last year's success, according to Junior Leah Sibener, cocaptain with Juniors Emily Kuo and Don Traubert and Seniors Tom Brewer, Shannon Kimball, Jarus Singh, Philip Verma and May Fu.

"Philip has improved so much; he has gotten really fast," Leah said. "Emily is also running really fast times. We have a lot of freshmen so the team is huge, which is great. It's a privilege to be one of their captains, but I was a little timid the first one or two weeks."

Scores not previously mentioned are as follows:

BOYS' BASKETBALL—Nazareth Academy, February 12, away: Varsity lost 63-55, j.v. lost 49-40; Noble Street, February 15, home: Varsity won 74-38.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL—Kenwood Academy, February 13, home: Varsity won 65-51; Glenbard South, February 15, home: Varsity lost 64-49.

BOYS' SWIMMING—St. Rita, February 5: Varsity won 82-77, j.v. won 70-66

Get a sweet cut for Spring!



Photo by Lexie Mansfield

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"There's a lot of freshmen this year which should give us depth. But first, we need to push 'em around a little so they'll be ready for the competition."

—Emily Kuo, junior



NO, YOU ARE NOT WATCHING THE OLYMPICS



Photo by Emily Chiu

AFTER MUNCHING on free doughnuts with 25 other juniors, Ruiqi Tang and Vanessa Ramirez glided across the Midway Plaisance skating rink at the Junior Ice Skating afternoon, February 15. Planned by class officers, skating is one of two grade activities

scheduled for this year, Ruiqi, a Cultural Union representative, said.

"The event was meant for people to relax and hangout with friends and from what I saw it served its purpose," Ruiqi explained. "Now we're planning a Six Flags trip for the spring."

SPORTS GABE BUMP

More recruitment woes

PERSISTENT PHONE calls, nonstop text messages, expensive gifts and constant nationwide attention: welcome to the world of college sports recruiting.

More than a decade removed from the infamous "Fab Five" incident, where five freshmen on the University of Michigan men's basketball team received various gifts from a booster, the NCAA is still fighting a grueling battle with recruitment regulations. A little more than a week ago, Indiana University basketball head coach Kelvin Sampson was bought out of his contract after illegally making hundreds of phone calls to potential recruits.

As we enter a more technological age, college coaches are adapting. That's why the NCAA has implemented restrictions on text messages and cell phone calls. But the recruitment process is increasingly aggressive because of potential money and exposure outstanding athletes offer colleges.



Gabe

For example, last year, Eric Gordon, a standout high school guard from Indiana, verbally agreed to play at the University of Illinois. But Sampson kept recruiting Gordon with such vigor that the guard is now playing at Indiana and leading the team in scoring.

In college football, National Signing Day has turned into a major event with national television stations, such as ESPN, broadcasting top recruits announcing their college choice. Certain sports analysts attacked this year's top prospect, Terrelle Pryor, when he decided not to sign a national letter of intent on NSD. After he announced he wouldn't sign, T.V. cameras surrounded Pryor's house and reporters camped outside his door just to get an interview.

Mere interest in high school athletes has turned into obsession. I admit that upon hearing about Pryor's freakish athleticism earlier this year, I was a little more than curious to hear where he would go. Just like any other sports fan, I'm extremely interested in the future generations of professional sports. But the extent to which coaches and the media are pursuing big time recruits has turned into a mock circus.

There isn't any reason to propel these young athletes into stardom just yet. Before we roll out the red carpet, at least wait until they walk down the graduation aisle.

Baseball team to train like the pros...in Florida

By Matt Luchins
Associate editor

Jetting to the former Spring Training home of the Florida Marlins, the boys' baseball team plans to train like the pros during Spring Break, March 19-26 at the Cocoa Expo Sports Center in Cocoa, Florida.

The first such trip for U-High athletics comes after a new Illinois High School Association rule allowing sports teams to travel more than 500 miles, provided the players don't miss classes.

"Both coaches were supportive of the trip and the parents showed a lot of interest, too," Athletic Director David Ribbens said. "The trip is organized by the school and it's part of the team's season. They'll play three games that will count towards their official record."

"This is a trial, but if the coaches think it's beneficial, it's likely we'll make this an annual baseball trip, because of the length of their season. They can't play in cold weather so this should give them an extra week on the diamond. I think we could do this with other Spring sports too. If this one goes well, I would expect this to grow to a few more teams over the next five years or so."

With 12 returning State qualifiers, Track Head Coach Bud James expects a top three finish in the Independent School League.

"We should do well in Conference and have a host of State qualifiers, but Northridge should be a challenge at the ISL meet," he said. "On the girls, Shannon Kimball, Leah Sibener, Sherry Fu, Ethel Yang, Josey Mintel, May Fu and Katherine Zhou all qualified for state last year. Sarah Lloyd has a chance in the long jump if she recovers well from knee surgery."

"In the boys we have Jarus Singh, Philip Verma, Don Traubert, Kevin Brunke, Max Wagner, Ben Jurisson and Robert Meyer, all who qualified for state in cross-country. Leading the sprinters should be Billy Stevenson and Tom

Brewer. They should have outstanding senior years and we expect should qualify for state in the sprints."

Despite several freshmen starting last year, the girls' soccer team advanced to Supersectionals, increasing expectations for this year's team, according to Head Coach Mike Moses.

"The bar is set pretty high, but you can't always measure your performance against last year's team," he said. "I just hope they won't be disappointed if they don't reach the same level as last year. But team chemistry is strong and although they're a young team they have had experience in a lot of difficult situations and they know how to be successful."

Led by Captain Sandy Carton, senior, varsity boys' tennis open the season against their toughest opponent, Head Coach Gerald Hanck said.

"Latin is by far our strongest competition in the ISL and we play them first, which is makes it very hard for us," he explained. "We have to play our absolute best tennis to beat them, which is difficult to do in the first meet since we won't know our best doubles pairings by then."

Upcoming games include the following:

TRACK: Indoor Track Invitationals, all home, February 8, February 29, March 7, March 14; Chicago Christian Tri-meet, April 8, away.

BOYS' TENNIS: Illiana Christian, March 17, j.v. home; Latin School, April 4, away; Northridge College Prep, April 8, varsity, home; Lake Forest Academy, April 15, home.

GIRLS' SOCCER: Elgin Academy, March 11, varsity, home; Chicago Christian, March 14, home; Whitney Young, March 15, home; Francis Parker, March 18, varsity, home, j.v. away; Pepsi Shootout, April 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, varsity, away; Willows Academy, April 8, away; Illiana Christian, April 14, away; Wheaton Academy, April 17, away.

BOYS' BASEBALL: Chicago Hope Academy, March 11, varsity, away; Illiana Christian, March 15, varsity, away; Francis Parker, March 18, home; Hales Franciscan, April 1, varsity, home; Lake Forest Academy, April 4, away; Latin School, April 5, home; Morgan Park Academy, April 7, varsity, away; Chicago Christian HS, April 17, varsity home, j.v. away.

FLAVA FEST

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 5

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Fifteen miles to the west of Albany, New York, rises a wall of rock nearly 1,100 feet in height, known as the Helderberg Escarpment. Since 2001, photographer John Yang has captured in detail the beauty of the landscape around this area, especially along Indian Ladder Trail. Yang's photographs are reminiscent of works by great nineteenth-century landscape photographers Carleton E. Watkins and

William Henry Jackson. His seductive prints lead the viewer on a visual hike along Indian Ladder Trail, opening the eyes to expansive scenery at one moment and drawing one inward at the next, into dark and mysterious chambers of layered rock. A quiet timelessness pervades his scenes. Yang's photographic journey along Indian Ladder Trail is a lyric one, filled with a sense of self-discovery.



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