U-HIGH MIDWAY

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2008

‘Dream’ will emerge with circular energy

Shakespeare returns to May Festival stage

By Alex Kleiman
Midway reporter

Upon three circular platforms, fairies, kings and queens will fiercely tear, gracefully twirl and rambunctiously shout through the air in the Rites of May production of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

The play begins at 8 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 15-17 in Blaine Courtyard. Tickets are available in Blaine Lobby for $10. Performances will be moved to Sunday, or subsequent days in event of rain.

The annual Rites of May festival will precede the production, 5-7 p.m., Thursday and Friday, in Blaine Courtyard. The festivities will continue into Saturday with an International Festival, aimed at Lower and Middle School students and sponsored by parents, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in Kenwood Mall and Upper and Lower Kovler gyms.

This year we are incorporating full circles as platforms for the stage, something we've never done before," Technical Director Allen Ambrosini said. "Characters will be able to hide under the circle. Also, the stage and the backdrop will be the same colors for the first time this year. It will be painted blue and green with big vines and flowers. We always try to do something different with the stage each year."

Assistant Director Krystal Martines, senior, said, "Everyone in the play moves differently. For example, the rustics are really clumsy and the fairies are graceful. There's a lot of interesting movement in the production. You can even expect a flip off a platform, surprise exits, fight scenes and chases. The play was cast very well. Everyone seems to fit their roles.

Fairies in flown, bright colored sprite-like garments and rustics in peasant-like outfits in earthen tones will brighten the staging, said Junior Kelly Kovacs, co-costumes mistress with Senior Victoria Rogers.

'THE FOUR main fairies are named after earthly elements," Kelly explained. "Their costumes will reflect their names. For example, the fairy named Mustardseed will wear mustard colored clothing."

DANCING AROUND their queen Titania (Marriessa Miles-Coccaro), left, fairies Lauline Gough, Robin Shapiro, Kelly Kovacs and Sage Mahoney cavort in the Rites of May production "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Portraying Puck, one of William Shakespeare's most magical sprites, Joe Bostiver kneels at right. A king's henchman, Ivan Winslow moves in front of Puck. When the photo was taken, the stage setting, including a backdrop, was still being constructed.

FAIRIES do a dramatic, passionate dance. Oberon's henchmen do several energetic, determined tugs, rolls and jumps. Puck, one of the fairies, does a rambunctious, wild dance that covers most of the stage, and the fairies do a graceful dance with lots of twirls.

SEEN SOME of his own traits in the eccentric personality of his character Oberon, king of the fairies, Senior Robert Webber thrives in Oberon's mystical persona.

"When I first started practicing I was too stiff, but once I learned my lines my character's personality came out more," Robert said. "Oberon is really wild and unreserved, and I'm that way too. Also, I'm dejected at the romance. Oberon is very jealous and violent towards his wife, Titania, while at the same time very loving. It's hard to find a way to portray so many emotions at once.

"This is the first play I've ever tried out for so I was shocked to get a lead role. I have to practice every day on my own to compensate for my lack of experience, but I think it's finally coming together."

Presenting "A Midsummer Night's Dream" for the fifth time, at least once every decade, Drama Teacher Luciana Ambrosini said this year seemed right.

"Since there are a lot of good, enthusiastic people in theater right now, this year felt like the right year to stage this play," she explained. "It's such a special show and it's never the same thing. It's a different cast and set and different movements to match a different scene.

"Actors give their own interpretations of their parts and Shakespeare has such depth that actors never give the same interpretation. It's so rich, complex and layered. Even young kids respond well to it. There's really a universal response. Good weather makes it even more real, that's why it's a great play for the spring."

(continues on next page)

TITANIA the fairy queen (Marriessa Miles-Coccaro) is accompanied by her hyperactive fairies Ana Bezanilla, standing, and Sydney Marcus. This will be the fifth May Festival production of the play. The Rites of May originated in 1969 as a celebration accompanying a Shakespeare production. The first "Dream" followed in 1971.

LOOKING INSIDE

FACULTY CONSIDERS SCHEDULE CHANGES

IMAGINE IF your class meeting times changed from day to day. The school day consisted of longer class meetings. The school day lasted for eight periods rather than nine. These are some of the possibilities the faculty is considering. Find out more details on page 4.

MEDI A COVERAGE OF 2008 ELECTION FAR AFIELD

CLASS: REALLY USED FOR LEARNING?

things are not always as they seem at first glance. There may be something else going on. Photojournalist Jeremy Handrup proves just that in his collection of photos on page 9, part three of a Midway series spotlighting the photographers' class projects.
Senior Prom to bloom with accent on nature

By Denise Aksoumah

Midway reporter

H ot pink, bright green and vivid orangered will be the dominant colors at Promgoers' formal dance at the Senior Prom, 8 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, May 24 at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon Blvd. In case of rain, dinner will move inside.

Parking will be available on Cannon Drive, Next to Tennyson Drive, or at the Lincoln Park Zoo.

ENTERING THE stone floor lobby adorned with various sizes of plants, the expected 170 Promgoers will start the night with non-alcoholic beverages and hors d'oeuvres. At 9 p.m., they will go upstairs for dinner and dancing.

"We thought the Nature Museum was a good location because it was a nice place," said Ayla Forster, Prom Committee cochair-person with Amanda Pappas, seniors. "We like that it is eco-friendly and that we have access to the exhibits, such as the butterfly exhibit, during prom, which was plus. The clean, white lighting feel of the museum was attractive because it was something that we could work with when decorating.

"For decorations, we chose to go with black lines for the tables, three different sized vases, of orange, green, hot pink or orange flower in each, paper lanterns and candles lining the windows."

SEATED TO 10 each round table, Promgoers will have three courses served by Greg Christian Catering.

"At dinner, people have chosen between three options; a vegetable strudel with a mushroom sauce, a meatloaf with lemon Italian glaze served with mashed potatoes and vegetable and steak and beef medallion with shrimp and grilled vegetable served with Potato Annas and vegetables."

"We had a very focused audience of Promgoers, D.J. Wayne Hampton is expected to play more than the typical genres of dance music."

"Unlike homecoming and formal, we want to vary the types of music played," she said. "We will play some hip-hop, rap, pop, but we want to also play some oldies like Michael Jackson and the Supremes and music from the 70’s for variation. We recognize that everyone doesn’t listen to what is usually played at dances, so we want to accommodate them."

VOTING FOR Prom King and Queen will take place at Prom. They will cast one vote for one girl and one boy from the top three nominees, Ayla said. "Chaperons will vote the count once every 30 minutes to make sure the winners at some point after dinner."

Chaperons are as follows: Principal Ryan Luehn, Dean of Students Larry McFadden, counselor and Testing Coordinator Chris Harper and teachers including Jeffery Jameson, Mr. Charles Bronson, history; Ms. Pote Pothiguan, A.P. physics Mr. Joe Soder, lower school; Mr. Edward Dungan, Ms. Catherine Callet, French; Mr. Brian Winkler, art and Ms. Laura Danner, Spanish.

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Vocal, music groups offer concerts

By Nick Chaskin

Midway reporter

Climaxing with "May It Be" by the Irish singer and as-typed and four Grammy award winners Emy, three U-High choirs will perform with two Middle School choirs at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2110 W. Chicago, 22 May 22 at 1131 E. 57th Street.

In another concert, the U-High Orchestra will perform with the U-High Band, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 at 1131 E. 57th Street.

The High School groups performing at the Chicago High School for the Arts Choir; all female Bella Voce (Italian for "beautiful voice"); and coed Bel Canto (Italian for "beautiful sound"); all directed by music teacher Katy Sinclair.

"We will be performing a huge range of music, from religious to pop to 20th century classical compositions," Ms. Sinclair said. "After the individual performances, I always have a brief informal ceremony to honor seniors who have been in choir for up to seven years, from Middle School through High School. It is important to me to honor them for their dedication, commitment and skill.

We are meeting the U-High Band to play six pieces, Band Director Brad Brickner, Music Department chairperson, said the Band's offering will include several pieces, from baroque period and two contempo- rary pieces, explained Orchestra Director Roslyn Torto.

Our strongest group is Baroque music so that's what we're trying to highlight in this concert," Ms. Torto said. "Along with a song or two from other eras, we're working in a way so we are going to perform Vivaldi's concertos for two cellos which will feature Jackie Robinson and another piece for two cellos and one flute with the rest of the Orchestra.

"We also will play Bach's concerto for two violins, which will feature Jonathan Zhou and David Chung.

Rites of May play

(continued from front page)

Dining booths Thursday and Friday will offer ice cream, sponsored by the Black Students' Association; flank and tress fishes cake, Latinos Unidos: pretzels and German sausage, German Club; falafel, hummus, Jerusalem salad and pita bread, Jewish Students' Association. Hot dogs and hamburgers will also be sold. Along with dining booths, the festival includes student-run game booths, such as golf, a ball toss and an inflatable moon walk.

Tickets for food and games will be sold at Blaine Hall windows each evening.

The annual International Festival will feature booths representing Africa, China, France, Germany, Israel, Ireland, Scotland, Greece, Japan and Korea showcasing their cultures through art, food and music.

A globe accompanied by cooking demonstrations, by several dance groups and inflatable rides and games in Kenwood Mall will provide other attractions, according to Ms. Lauren Polite, cochairperson of the International Festival with Ms. Peri Altman and Ms. Catherine Beard, all Lower School parents. A student book sale will be held in Belfield gym 4-8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

Other play cast members, by role, are as follows:


Crew heads are as follows:

Assistant director, Krystal Mathews; set, Claire Buxton and Devona Weir; sound, Andy path, sheep and people, Graham Salingen; house, box office and furniture. Adam Weiss, makeup: Sydney Marois, lights: Matthew Eidson-Cocta- re and Krystle Mathews; costumes: Kaylee Kowron and Victoria Rogers.

Author to talk about new book

By Emily Roberts

Midway reporter


"There is this whole animal aspect in the book which students really liked," said Li- zzy, "The Book of Cat's Tree House. They enjoyed learning about the animals and how the character copes with them. We talk about that we would like to hear from her at our last Author Visit Commit- tee.

"I think students are really interested in her writing process and her experiences. We're going to try to set up some cue ques- tions incase we get stuck in the beginning process of asking questions. We have her books in the library for sale and there are forms available which students can fill out to purchase her books, which she can sign when she comes to visit.

Discussing gay and lesbian communities in Chicago differ from other cities, Keishia Bergquist, coauthor of "A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago," led a discussion attended by 30 U-Highers during lunch, April 23 in the Senior Commons.

Ms. Bergquist emphasized how important a strong gay and lesbian community is today in Chicago.

"When I was in high school, there was no GSA or support group for gay and lesburlas," she said. "I hope you appreciate the advantage you have by being part of this community, you have resources, a support com- munity, and be out. That way, the cultural bars will eventually get demolished as a whole. If a support group has a title with me, then it probably is more aimed towards the younger group."
HELPING RAISE more than $2,000 for the Save Darfur Coalition, 150 U-High- ers and their guests grooved to the fast-paced beats of D.J. Liz Johnson at the Dance for Darfur. Hosted by the Black Students’ Association, the dance featured a rap about being a refugee by Junior Ike Edgerton and Sophomore P.T. Bell, a remix by DJQ Entertainment and an Indian Dance performance by the Bhangra Team. At the ticket table, MBA members Lauren Stewart, left, and Madelaine Horn greeted guests including Joe Hurst.

Briefly
Four seniors win National Merit Scholarships, another makes All-State Academic Team finals
Four seniors have received $2,600 awards in the National Merit Scholarship Program. The students are Alexander Singh, Robert Webber, Liven Xu and Katherine Zhao. Committee of college admissions officers and high school seniors nationwide made the selection from finalists each state based on accomplishments, skills and potential for college success.
Senior Maria Brukalske was selected as a regional finalist in Chicago Tribune’s 2008 All-State Academic Team scholarship program. Nine of the 10 winners came from suburban schools, the other attends University High in Normal.

EXCHANGE—After two years of planning a trip to China, the “Community Ball of Fame Uniting Heroes Award” for their contributions.

AWARDED—An Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy was presented to the late Lai Abel by the American Federation last Friday at the Urbana High School. Abel was honored for her tireless work for the University of Illinois. Each student going on the trip of about 6,200 miles will be required to have a tardy pass, which is a Center for Disease Control health clearance and vaccinations for Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B. The students will get round-trip plane tickets, but all, hotels, costs and food.

While attending academic and traditional Chinese class, U-Highers will stay with current students and their families. The Shanghai students will stay with U-High families starting in September.


NOMINATED—Twelve juniors have been nominated for the annual Emma Helm McIntyre Award for excellence in writing, honoring the retired English Department chairperson. They were a timed essay April 22, which will provide one criteria for the selection of two winners. They are:
Emily Bennett, Isabel Barrow, Kevin Bruneau, Julie Condro, Socia Czochrowska, Filip Kopek, Belona Elle Liptak, Ameo Lucido, Tim Murphy, Emily Seidl, Matt Wilcox, Tia Yong, Alex Zimmerman.

CHosen—Eight pieces of art and photography were chosen for the U-High part of an exhibit which opened April 18 at Gallery Stuart-Brodets at 375 West Wave. The show closed May 2.

The students, their medium and title of their work were as follows:
Lili, Loyola, New Trier and Walter Payton students also participated.

JET setting back to Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where she interned last summer with interior product designer Nico- lene Brukalske, Senior Lani 98 of 127 seniors, who began their May Project yesterday.

Started by the Class of 1969, May Project serves for seniors to pursue career possibilities and to prepare for the communities service as a substitute of some or all classes in their final month of high school. A faculty sponsor, approval of a faculty advisor, and a parent member and a student member are essential components to Lab School classes at the end of May Project.

SENIORS WILL present their Projects during the first week of June and display their work on the day and from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 5 in Judd Hall, according to this year’s new May Project Coordinator Rebecca Chmielowski, Lower School assistant teacher.

“I really want to make sure that May Project is publicized,” Ms. Chmielowski said. “These kids spend so much time planning, researching and preparing their projects that I want to be sure the Lab School community and the University of Chicago to hear what these students are doing because the projects really bring out the best in each student.”

“I’ll be publicizing the presentations by putting up fliers, having it mentioned in E-news, the school website, the lower and mid- dle school’s bulletin, alumni newsletter, all that kind of stuff,” she said. “I hope that seniors with also publicize it on their own. I hadn’t heard or known about May Project until last year so if there is one thing I want to do it’s to make sure everyone in the school to know about it and for them to want to come and see these projects.”

WORshipping Since 1998 at her firm in Amsterdam, Nivolette Brukalske designs light installations, curtains, lamps, mirrors and other household appliances.

Mother, sister and niece of September 11 party in Minneapolis and they keep in touch by visiting each other and both living in Holland at one point,” Eva said. “I spent last summer in Amsterdam with Nivolette helping her during her, WORshipping in the Circles of Life.” I will be helping her get her collection ready for when it is released on May 16. She is also doing a youth collection that I will be working on with her 13-year-old daughter. "While I’m there I will be taking pictures of everything and once I return, I will work with Ms. Lis Ricketts, my sponsor, on making a photograph exhibition for the Lab School. During the montage I will talk about my experience and maybe even bring a catalogue of her designs." 

EXPLORing a FAMILY tradition, Ben Philipson is taking flight lessons at Glow International Airport in Bowling Green, Illinois for one hour a day, five days a week May 14 through June 6 with hopes of being able to fly alone by the end of May Project.

I was interested in flying when I was 12 years old and my uncle was a pilot with the Righteous Gentiles in the Holocaust,” Ben said. "I learned to fly and eventually get my license, but my goal is to be able to fly alone by the end of May Project."

I’ll be flying one on an instructor with who will teach me different maneuvers like how to turn the airplane safely, maintain the right altitude and airspeed, recover from stalls and spins, all things that will be requirements to get licensed. During the montages I will take one to a video towards the end of my flying and my daily trip here for my presentation.

OTHER SENIORS going on May Project, by category, are as follows:

Academic flight school; Yosom Kline: building and mechanics; Myriah Heit, Won Hee Lee: Patry Williams, Steven Xu, Ze Zhang: business; Sandy Carter, Lindsey Mehan, Ben Fisher, Mia Stowell, Vahid Smith, computer science: Kencanang; cooking; Claire Beutig, Augusto Muela: dance; Racquel Harris, Anna Meozzi, Poppo: exploration of culture: Stephanie Holmes, Kimmie Kendal, Kendell Pellett, Stephanie Tung: landscaping or producing: Deep Chinnappa, Cori Keene, Charlotte Long, Sydney Marcus, Montana Mccrane, Van Min, Jiang, Michael: Deep Chinnappa.


98 seniors go on Projects near, far
By Isabel del Canton
Midyear reporter
On schedule

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY MAY 13, 2008

Faculty considers daily schedule alternatives

By Gabriel Bump
Associate editor

Walking into his first class on Monday morning, a sophomore boy won’t sit through a history lesson as he did the previous Monday. Today he has math. Tomorrow he’ll have physics. This is one possible scenario if U-High changes to one of several schedules under consideration by the six faculty-member Scheduling Committee with Principal Matt Horvat.

Having discussed a potentially new schedule for more than a year, the faculty voted at its April 24 meeting to continue pursuing possibilities.

WANTING TO increase contact time between teachers and students, Lab Schools Director David Magill initiated the search for a new schedule. Computer Science Teacher Baker Frankle, faculty chairperson, then researched different high school schedules from around the nation with Assistant Registrar Brent LaR owe. Most schedules involve a rotation, which means classes meet at different times each day over varied cycle lengths.

Three considered schedules include a nine-day rotation, an eight-day rotation and a six-day rotation. The nine-day has classes meeting six times during the nine days, the eight-day has classes meeting five times, the six-day has classes meeting four times. In each model every class gets one double period and requires an eight period per day, according to Mr. Frankle.

THE CYCLES wouldn’t relate class meetings to days of the week, but would refer to school days as streets in Hyde Park. For example, a class would meet on Kenwood instead of Friday.

“We’re decoupling the days of the week from the times you meet with your classes,” Mr. Frankle explained. “That’s an enticing idea to people. Right now we’re playing with a few options and seeing what breaks.”

“The big issue we’re trying to solve is what the constraints preventing us from going to an eight period day are, what if every class had one double period a week. We pretty much want to schedule every class the same way. Our goal is not to affect the classes students want to take and the classes we offer while changing to an eight period day.”

Before proceeding, the Committee first has to see what would happen if the amount of schedulable periods in a day were reduced from nine to eight. Mr. LaR owe explained that the process is largely based on trial and error.

“The COMMITTEE is waiting for me to set up many ‘fake’ U-High,” Mr. LaR owe said. “Each time I’m going to change one specific part of the schedule. Usually these types of things take a lot of time. Most schedules take months. Going from nine to eight periods raises too many questions for us to discuss just sitting around a table. At the moment we have too many questions about what reducing the periods will do to decide on which one we’re considering.”

Mr. LaR owe feels there are infinitely many possibilities for the new schedule.

“IMAGINE YOU’RE just scheduling your Saturday. If there’s a fire drill or a day a then teacher will lose a class period.”

“We’re NOT that small and we’re not that big,” Mr. Horvat continued. “So if we were at Walter Payton it would be different because they’re just a high school. We share teachers with the Middle School and we share facilities. For students, it takes four years to get used to a schedule.”

The Committee is chaired by Science Department Chairperson Sharon Hovestine. Other members include Mr. Horvat, Mr. Franke, Theatre Technical Director Allen Ambroseini, History Teacher Chris Janus and Foreign Language Teacher Elvira Pelletier.

THE ICE MAN LEAVETH

Attempting to cool down from the Spring warmth, Max Wagner basks in the cool breeze from a University Market freezer. Originally planning to spend the entire day next to the refreshing cubicle, a new idea abruptly enters his head.

Photos by Helen Vines

Upon eyeing the vast multitude of frozen pizzas that lie within, Max quickly makes his way to the cashier.

Week to spotlight election, other student activism

By Tom Stanley-Becker
Associate editor

Guest speakers and students who have volunteered on political campaigns will share their experiences during a week of political activities, during lunch, May 19-23 in U-High 103-104.

Organized by Junior Kate Roett and Freelwoman Rose Traubert, the week was planned by nine students and will be advised by History Teachers Chris Janus, Andrea Martonffy, Charles Branhum and Cindy Jurisom.

First conceived while the History Department faculty was preparing a new fall quarter elective on the election, the idea was originally to convene an assembly where student activists would describe their experiences. Later the idea was expanded to a full week of activities.

Inspiring students to get involved or to voice their support is among the week’s purposes, according to Rose.

“During the week, we want to teach people that they do have a say — it is not just what the candidate wants — they can make a difference,” Rose said.

“They can be involved even if they are not of voting age or directly involved with a candidate. There are things you can do, just not watch the news.”

Each day of the week will cover a different theme.

Confirmed speakers are as follows:

MONDAY, MAY 18-19: O.C. Dean of Social Sciences Mark Hansen, on elections and the political process.

TUESDAY, MAY 20-21: Side community organizer Mike Kruglik, on his experience with grassroots political organizing.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21- National Obama Finance Chairperson Penny Fritzker, mother of Junior Donald Traubert and Freelwoman Rose Traubert and Illinois Finance Chairperson John Rogers, father of Senior Victoria Rogers, on fundraising.

FRIDAY, MAY 22- U-Highers who organized the assembly on their experiences working for political campaigns.
Calls from the Fire Swamp

by Eric Cochran

SPRINGTIME: NAKEDRUNNER SEASON.

I'M NOT A WITCH.
I DON'T WANT TO BE AN ACCESSORY.
TO...

CHARACTER SKETCH ANDREW SYLORA

Experimenting with music, exploring the art of recording

Art by Joe Calas

PT Bell

At 4 a.m. most people in the southern suburban neighborhood of Hazel Crest are still asleep. But not Sophie von Amonsen Pergrin Thadious Bell.

Sporting an orange zip-up fleece and square-rimmed glasses, he stares intently at a computer screen and with a light touch of his mouse, carefully draws a melody previously from his band's Ghost-20 electric guitar into a music-software program. After cutting parts of the melody, he slaps on a pair of sleek black headphones and makes a play. He's finally created the sound he wants, six months later.

PT, as he's called, says his music comes at the cost of both precious sleep and homework time, but ultimately provides a way for him to do what he loves.

"I'm not terribly social, so I find my love for music helps me relate to people better and gives them something to talk about," PT explained. "Music and art is a unique language I enjoy communicating through."

COMING TO the Lab Schools in 6th grade, PT initially focused only on his rock-influenced guitar style before meeting fellow Sophomore Eugene Lee. "When I met Eugene at an Alfred Hitchcock School back in 6th grade, I introduced myself to the aspect of visual arts," PT said. "Soon after, he started to influence my music, making my songs symbolic and having lots of different references to people and such."

Together with Eugene, PT fused different genres of music to create a new experimental form that even he finds hard to describe.

"It was really just a little of everything I loved. Little metal, a little progressive rock, a little jazz, actually some polka beats in there too. I haven't come up with a name for it yet though," he chuckled.

Suddenly, PT has produced 28 tracks himself, each three to four minutes long and posted on internet forums and popular art websites such as DescentArt.com and Newgrounds.com.

PT has also started utilizing computer programs such as Audacity, an audio editor application, and FL Studio 7, a digital music production program, to develop more of his music.

"I began to lack the patience of recording things with my guitar, so I talked to a good friend of mine who referred me to FL Studio 7," PT explained. "I just record either one or two tracks on my guitar, throw them in the program and fiddle around with it until I can create something that suits my taste."

Even with high-tech programs, songs take anywhere from a month to a year to complete, PT said. "It only takes me five to 15 minutes to develop a really basic track for a song, but then I usually put the song away and come back a month later."

FL Studio 7 allows me to add ambient sound effects and instruments to my backgrounds, since I can't seem to keep a band together for very long. With this program, I can create different sounds for my guitar by distorting the sound and adding repetitive patterns. It just opens up a whole new world of possibilities for refining my music."

PT is working on a new collaboration titled "Apartment Five" with Sophomore Ian Hundt at this year's Lastchob. "Ian is really into hip-hop, a genre I haven't really experimented with," PT said. "We've gotten together to see what we can come up with using hip-hop with rock or metal. Currently, we've already developed about 33 preliminary songs for the project and more will be on the way."

Regardless of how groundbreaking his music will turn out, PT hopes that it will eventually help break the mold of what many consider to be defined branches of music.

"Many people classify music into categories. This is rap, this is jazz, this is country and so on. I'm trying to break all that. People should be able to choose various aspects of each music style to suit their own tastes. Music is always music no matter the form."

"Most people approach life and things in life, like music, quite methodically. I don't, and I think that's how I can get the most out of it, by looking at it in a way nobody else does."

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Alumnus, family give Lab Schools $10 million for new campus

By Cydney Weiner

Editor-In-Chief

Ten million dollars, the largest gift the Lab Schools has ever received, has been given by Mr. Earl Shapiro, Class of 1956, and his family for the Schools' new Comprehensive Campaign.

Mr. Shapiro and Mrs. Shapiro, Brenda, are Hyde Park residents. Their son Matthew, Class of 1984, served as Midway businesses and ad manager.

Their son Benjamin and his wife Alexandra also attended the Lab Schools.

"As a local businessman my dad was heavily involved with local charities and passed those philanthropic traits to his children," Mr. Matthew Shapiro said.

"It's a big gift, but the project is even that much bigger."

A reception will take place this Friday at the Standard Club. University of Chicago President Robert Zimmer and Lab Schools Director David Magill will be among speakers. The reception is invitation-only.

"In addition to the fact that this is so magnanimous and so groundbreaking in terms of a gift, what I'm really hoping is that it will stimulate others to give back to the Schools for the right reasons as well," Mr. Magill said. "This is just a starting point and hopefully everyone else will step up accordingly."

Mr. Matthew Shapiro said. "Ironically, we need to make those changes in order to keep the nature of the Lab Schools the same."

(Also see 10-second editorial on page 6.)
School day offers plenty of awkward moments

THROWN OUT UPON the visual highways intersecting behind a closed lid. The pair of eyes that stare and silently judge while the classroom serves as an invisible courtroom are quick to hide when their sights awkwardly center on another pair. And although the verdict never arrives, juridical sideways stares litter the school hallways throughout U-High. For through and through, buzzing eyebeams and their secret thoughts can exist anywhere. Different elements contribute to embarrassing school situations and personal awareness. Circular table arrangements allow for quick, easy inspection of the surrounding students, provoking for the few fortunate of unblinking, unblinking eyebeams. Eyes openly alert for a firm wave that some person mistakenly believes to be in his/her direction and neglections to account for the true receptor of the friendly hello. Innumerable encounters in the hallway that paralleled a worst nightmare. Two stranded figurants in a hallway without the benefits of easily accessible escape routes. Various behind-the-back insults which somehow manage to lose the valuable barrier for its secretive feelings. The peculiar emotion attached to awkward eye contact can sometimes far outweigh an abusive wave.

Translucent eyes usually give the impression of a space-adventuring mind while the anchored body bears the earthly paranoia from curious onlookers. Abruptly dismantled by annoyed teachers, their favorite loitering spots include the floor, the ceiling, or somewhere off in the distance. But you can usually see them face than the grill seat before the evening committees across the classroom. However, these lingering eyes are usually reserved for the same translucent stares brought on by classroom and daytime boredom. Or, sometimes for the visual curiosity that too often turns to tired for spoken words. Unfortunately, many strangers are hasty to hit and run without realizing the victimized eyebeam is in fact paralyzed in the same situation, with the same uncomfortable feeling as if someone’s privacy has been invaded. The opposing iris and more involved with the object of its attention than one might think.

And so, the next time a wreck on the highway takes place and someone doesn’t accept the insurance, I’ll laugh and shake it off. But I always liked the floor to begin with.

U-HIGH MIDWAY


The campaign dumbs down

U-High students keep to the traditional presidential campaign coverage. Secretary of State Obama dominated story line and coverage, but the campaign is just beginning. Campaigns aren’t just about “who wins elections,” but about the “political environment.” The campaign is a change in the political climate of the country and the world. This election is about hope, about the future, and about the direction of the country.

As the Midway Sees It

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

The campaign dumbs down

Watch the T.V. news and reading the headlines, U-Highers tracking the Presidential campaign might believe this election is really about bowling scores and cocktail parties. The media’s coverage focuses on the candidates’ friends and hobbies, but misses the point about the election’s defining issues: the economy, the war in Iraq, health care, jobs and education.

Responding to the trivia highlighted in media campaign coverage, Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) called such news “the political silly season.” But the “silly season” threatens to distort politics by creating such a sensation out of candidates’ personal lives that voters may be very unenlightened about the real issues.

The danger of the current news seems to lie not simply in focusing on gossipy rather than the war and the economy, but in portraying gossipy by association through accusations recalling the witch hunts of the McCarthy Era. Beginning with a Fox News story in March, the media has turned Senator Obama’s friendship with the Rev. Jeremiah Wright into a national scandal.

Accusations that Senator Obama shares the Rev. Wright’s extremist views on race relations only make the controversial Chicago minister a spectacle. The media’s misplaced outrage has even reached back to Hyde Park, Senator Obama’s acquaintance with University of Illinois at Chicago Professor William Ayers, a former member of the radical 1960s group the Weather Underground, created an uproar. The implicit point of the media is “Are you now, have you ever?” questions in the style of the McCarthy-era violations of free speech and association. When asked about Mr. Ayers in the last televised Presidential debate, Senator Obama responded, “The notion that somehow as a consequence of me knowing somebody who engaged in detestable acts 40 years ago when I was 8-years-old somehow reflects on me and my values, doesn’t make much sense. It’s also silly for the media to create a furor over exactly what Senator Hillary Clinton remembered about her college days in 1967. Nobel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz reports in a new book, “The Three Trillion Dollar War,” that the Iraq war is costing the United States alone with thousands of soldiers’ lives, over $10 billion a month, which could be spent on education, health care and job creation. Meanwhile, in 2008 the total federal education spending amounts to only $82.6 million, down $3 million from 2007 to cut huge budget deficits, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

While the candidates argue about the media, voters don’t have a complete picture of the issues. For U-Highers, the issues is to look beyond the campaign noise to the real concerns that make this election a turning point.

10-second editorials

LAST MONTH! The Lab Schools received a generous $10 million from Paul Shapiro, Class of 1960, and his family. After watching his children, including former Midway Ad and Business Manager Matthew, Class of 1984, gain a love of learning from the school, Mr. Shapiro said he was glad to support “what is truly a global educational jewel.” Hopefully more alumni will be inspired by the Shapiro’s actions and help contribute to keeping the Lab Schools a leader in education.

WILL CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT Swat Team members patrolling South Side neighborhoods with automatic weapons in hand, many Chicago’s increasing trend of violence? It seems each week the Police Department implements new strategies to quell violence in Chicago, but each week shootings continue in March. In the city, pushed minority students face 10 p.m. on weekdays and 11 p.m. on weekends. Then, the city increased police presence over the weekend between 9 p.m. and midnight in high violence neighborhoods starting early last month. But after a week more people, mostly teens, fall victim to this growing epidemic, with 43 people shot in the closing weeks of last month. Assistance from the federal government is more desperately needed. Mayor Daley expressed his anger toward the situation last month, but the federal agencies need to stop observing and starting acting.

WHAT A.P.S continuing this week and finals quickly approaching, many U-Highers likely feel overwhelmed by their workloads. Luckily, events such as the Rises of May give students chance to relax during a hectic time. With any luck, U-Highers can take a break from the books and enjoy all that the school offers.

SAY WHAT!

Compiled by Rohini Tobacowalla

Who would be your dream Senior Prom date?

POSSNER, sophomore: "Gossip Girl" would be the ideal prom date. He’s cute and I’m hoping he’d be like the actor who plays the show. He seems to fit the stereotypical Prom date, someone who would buy me flowers.

PHILLAIRE, junior: My perfect Prom date would be Rohini Tobacowalla. The only problem is I’m stuck playing the drums with a card that said “Prom? She’s definitely my dream date, but because we’ve known each other for a long time and are great friends.

MALVIKA JOLLY, freshman: I’d choose Larry King because I want to know him and like his suspenders, his bowtie and the way he acts during interviews. I mean he’s had eight wives, so he’s obviously good with the ladies. He’s also chivalrous and a good conversationalist and a very good dancer.

MALVIKA, sophomore: Hmmm, I think Dan Humphrey from "Gossip Girl" would be the ideal prom date. He’s cute and I’m hoping he’d be like the character he plays on the show. He seems to fit the stereotypical Prom date, someone who would buy me flowers.

SARA, junior: But in all seriousness, I’d have a good time and it’d make it worth her while.

HOMER SHERW, senior: During Winter Break, Beco Marks and I went to a boutique and she spotted these bright green translucent Nikes that had a dead plastic painting on them. We stuff the shoes with a card that said "Prom? She’s definitely my dream date, because we’ve known each other for a long time and are great friends."
T.V. DAVID McALPINE

School paper from Hell thrives on mad drama

DEADLINES AND DRAMA abound on MTV's new reality show "The Paper," airing at 9:30 p.m. on Mondays.

Following Amanda, Alex, Adam and Giana, the four editor-in-chief candidates for The Circuit, school newspaper of Cypress Bay High School in Weston, Florida, "The Paper" was originally labeled as a documentary, giving viewers a look at the inner workings of a school newspaper. But, the first few episodes have yet to fulfill their original promise.

Instead, the short, 30-minute episodes outline the conflicts and relationships between high school students who just happen to be working on the paper.

For instance, the storyline opened with the four main cast members competing for editor-in-chief. Rather than explaining what an editor-in-chief does or delve into any of the journalistic work that each of the candidates themselves have done, it's firmly established that no one likes Amanda... and that's it.

All the viewer sees are Adam, Alex and Giana complaining among friends about how overbearing Amanda is on the paper and Amanda unabashedly talking about herself. All on national television.

So the one question that comes to mind is: Are these kids really aware of what they're portraying?

To every high school student who doesn't work on a newspaper staff yet watches "The Paper," this is the idea they're getting of high school journalism: drama, backstabbing, gossiping and, oh right, there's just that paper thing they work on every so often on the side.

FILM JULIE CARLSON

A followup falls flat as it searches over the globe

TRAVELING ACROSS the Middle East, filmmaker Morgan Spurlock attempts to do what the U.S. government can't: track down Osama bin Laden. With the lead from his second documentary, "Where in the World is Osama bin Laden?"

After exposing the dangers of McDonald's in 2004's hit "Super Size Me," Spurlock wants to bring down the Al-Qaeda leader. To complete his mission, he voyages from New York City to dangerous territories in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Israel and Afghanistan with only a camera crew and a translator.

The film includes interviews locals about bin Laden's whereabouts and his general influence on the Middle East, Spurlock's motive is nauseatingly self-important: his wish is to upstage his first child and he hopes to make the world a safer place for the unborn baby.

Spurlock has interviewed locals about bin Laden's whereabouts and his general influence on the Middle East. Spurlock's motive is nauseatingly self-important: his wish is to upstage his first child and he hopes to make the world a safer place for the unborn baby.

The film's previews boasted a mix of humor and facts that made "Super Size Me" work so well. But the movie provides neither laughs nor information. Spurlock simply "reveals" the obviously low quality of life in many Arabic countries.

Unfortunately, "Where in the World is Osama bin Laden?" is just as childish as the title sounds.

MUSIC ROBIN SHAPIRO

Roots puts down pure music gold

"RISING DOWN" is clearly what's up.

After bearing the tone of a country singer, "Birthday Girl" (ft. Fall Out Boy), the band's second album, due to be released a month before the album dropped April 24, avid Roots fans nervously pondered whether the band's sound would be sold out. But the anticipation escalated during the final days before the Roots' latest album, "Rising Down" hit stores. But, the hip hop giants ultimately used their common sense and parted ways with the unsigned chart-toppers.

Characteristically mainstream single to concrete tracks of gold.

Killing it in tracks such as "Singing Man" (ft. Porn, Truck North and Dice Raw), "Sneakers" (ft. Truck North and Sagoet) and "I Can't Help It" (ft. Malik B., Forn, Mercedes Martinez and Dice Raw) rapper Black Thought brings a modified sound, taking stances on controversial topics like poverty, racism, global warming and playing music, minimally touched on in their last album, "Game Theory."

After the hit single "Rising Down" (ft. Mos Def and Styles P), die-hard Roots fans knew they were in for a treat. Spurlock's method of playing music, minimally touched on in their last album, "Game Theory."

Eac track that follows brings a new spice to the album's dark undercurrent... little one minute jams like "V165" are the filling to the delicious, heavy, cake. Chicago hip hop legend Common even contributes to the album's prowess stamping his distinctive rhymic flow on the track, "The Show."

Wrapping up the album on a light tone with the track "Rising Up" (ft. Wale and Chrisette Michele), arabent Roots fans are taken back to 1999 and reminded why they first fell in love with their fourth studio album, "Things Fall Apart."

The Roots truly florist their hip hop legacy in their eighth studio album and this columnist will surely be listening to it until these four tracks drop their ninth.

BRAVING DANGER, Morgan Spurlock travels the globe in the disappointing "Where in the World is Osama bin Laden?"

East, explaining events with as little detail, but as many cartoon graphics, as possible.

Spurlock sets the film up like a video game, complete with a computer-animated fight sequence versus bin Laden during the opening credits. As he travels to more difficult countries, Nisman-esque visuals appear announcing the start of a new "level."

Unfortunately, "Where in the World is Osama bin Laden?" is just as childish as the title sounds.

DINING MONA DASGUPTA

An authentic, tasty touch of Spain

SCENES FROM Barcelona come alive in a mural of fish and crabs on a cooking counter with floats of shoots and a chef, a waiter and a customer standing behind a counter with fruits, vegetables, cheeses and more delicious cuisine. But murals are not the only art works that make Emilio's Tapas in Lincoln Park feel like a restaurant in the northeastern coast of Spain.

Also found in the spacious dining room are booths with decorative upholstery and tiled mosaics with more representations of fish in the sea. Aligning the ceiling, colorful jars of different sizes and shapes are complemented by hanging painted plates.

On a stormy Friday night last month, I visited Emilio's Tapas with my friend Derek Chiangpas, senior. We were immediately seated in one of the exquisite booths next to a floor length window overlooking the corner of Clark and Fullerton.

Having never dined at a tapas restaurant before, I asked our waiter to explain the small savory Spanish dishes, that I'm told people generally share.

With this new information, Derek and I meticulously studied the menu, which contained many appealing dishes.

We finally settled on four tapas: Tortilla a la Espa
donla con Ensalada, Spanish omelette with onion and po
tatoes, served with a salad; Ponz con Tomate, Jamon y Queso, tomato bread topped with sliced ham; Montaditos de Setas, portobella mushrooms in a white wine sauce; and Gambas a la Al片面a, grilled shrimp with garlic, lemon and olive oil. With this new information, Derek and I meticulously studied the menu, which contained many appealing dishes.

After our first round of tapas, our waiter asked us if we wanted to order more, but we had to decline. Four tapas were more than enough for two. The bill came to about $40.

EMILIO'S TAPAS: 44 East Fullerton Avenue, 773-327-5100. 5p.m. - 10p.m. Monday - Thursday, 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sunday.

Photo by Ron Darger

AFTER CHOOSING from a number of delectable options, Derek Chiangpas and Mona Dasgupta share a small Spanish ham dish at Emilio's Tapas on Fullerton.
FROM page 2

Science Team takes 1st

By Alex Kleiman
Midway reporter

Placing 1st at the March 13 Sectional competition at North Central College in west suburban Naperville, the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering team members attribute their win to switching divisions.

Changing from the more than 1,500 division to the 300 to 700 student division, the team remained in the smaller division for the April 10 State competition at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, again placing 1st.

U-Highers were confident they would place 1st in the smaller division, said Katherine Zhou, co-captain with David Xu. Both are seniors.

"We were worried about how we would do at State since we only won by 14 points last year to University of Illinois High School, which is pretty close," Katherine said.

"Once we heard that we were in the smaller division again we were pretty sure we would place 1st because we've beaten all of the schools in that division before."

Losing four junior varsity members less than a week before Regions, the Science Olympiad team placed 2nd in the April 5 Regional Competition at Benedictine University and 9th at the April 26 State competition at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Math Team tops State competition

By Raffi Khan
Midway reporter

Absolute domination.

At the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics State Finals April 26 at University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, Math Team won their second consecutive State Championship. Defeating 34 schools in the category of 400-1000 enrollment in individual and team contests, the team, junior and senior teams dominated their grade level competitions, all placing 1st.

Freshman Charles D., Sophomore Joey Klonowski and Junior Caroline Bank won 1st in state for their grade levels while Seniors Frank Firke and Bob Webber placed 2nd and 3rd.

"It used to be that Walter Payton would win handily when they were in our division but we would give it a fight. Last year, Frank explained.

"Still, the eight-person team and the calculus team didn't do as well as they could have, so there was room for improvement. But the incoming freshmen, junior and senior teams, as long as Charles, Joey and Caroline keep annihilating the competition, I don't think we'll have any trouble winning next year."

Debate duo heading for Nationals

By Andrew Sylora
Midway reporter

Qualifying for the Forensic League National Tournament June 15-20 in Las Vegas, debate team captain Elizabeth Morant, junior and sophomore Claire Milled will represent U-High among 3000 participating students.

Placing 1st in the Illinois District Tournament April 28 at Downers Grove South High School, Elizabeth and Claire qualified for nationals.

"It was a really intense tournament," Elizabeth said.

"The competition was stiff, but because we were only hitting schools in our district we didn't have to debate the big public schools we were used to like New Trier or Glenbrook.

"It was still a fierce competition."

Model U.N. scores big in Big Apple

By Kyle Brunke
Associate editor


More than 2,000 high school students from around the world were coordinated by a staff of nearly 70 college and university undergraduates, with most of the competition held at the New York Hilton. U-High teams representing Angola and Somalia were additionally chosen to speak several times in the General Assembly Hall. No individual awards were given.

"The competition was not as tough as we expected," said Captain Jenny Harris, senior.

"We faced good competition from the Highland Park team but Harvard was a lot more competitive."

Midway tops state contest

Winning the "Best Overall Newspaper" award for this year's Midway from the Eastern Illinois School Press Association, staff members also won 12 individual awards.

The Midway also won 1st place for overall design and for front page design, that award going to Tom Stanley-Becker.

Entered in the category of schools with 500-1,000 students, the Midway won the top award based on its placing in contest categories. The Midway usually competes in the under-500 category but at the time of contest entry the editors were told the enrollment was 603.

First-place winners included the following: Gabe Bump, news story; Ramzi Dressen, photographs; Cydney Weiner, advertisement; Robin Shapiro, column; Eric Cochrane, graphics.

Second-place awards were received by Cydney Weiner, feature story; Gabe Bump, sports story; and Eric Cochrane, graphics and World Goon (two awards).

Third-place awards were received by Liwen Xu, photography, and Kyle Brunke and Eva Jaeger, advertisement.

Besides their awards, Tom and Gabe have been selected to intern at the Hyde Park Herald. Tom will work this summer as a reporter and Gabe has begun an every-other-week U-High sports column.
"These pictures represent a day in the life of Jeremy Handrup."

—Jeremy Handrup, Junior

"THE ORIGAMI bird was made from a scrap of notebook paper during A.P. Physics," Junior Jeremy Handrup said. "Although Kate Reolet is taking notes in the picture, she spent earlier time crafting. The notebook paper and the pencil case juxtaposed with the origami bird and gatorade bottle is an interesting contrast between academics and recreation."

What else is going on in U-High classrooms

This photo essay gave me an opportunity to do in photojournalism what I'm most comfortable doing in terms of saying something more with photos."

So said Junior Jeremy Handrup of the photos he shot as a class project assigned by Photography Teacher Lince Ricketts.

"I chose this topic because I found myself doing these diversions during class and have often caught myself not paying attention when I should be," Jeremy continued. "Sudoku, texting, and crossword puzzles, are just a few of my class time favorites."

IN PHOTOJOURNALISM for two years, Jeremy took Advenced Photography last year and is completing an Independent Study in Photography this year with Ms. Ricketts. Jeremy placed out of Beginning Photography because of his childhood experience with photos.

"I started taking pictures when I was 8. My mother signed me up for a point-and-shoot class, but I wanted to develop as well, so I established a relationship with my teacher. I would go to her house and she would teach me to develop film and images."

"I never wanted to start photography. It's just something that grew in my life. It's a passion, my identity, a way of looking at the world in a different view and a way of expressing myself."

Last month, one of Jeremy's pictures of the girls' varsity soccer team appeared alongside an article written by Midway Reporter Gabe Bump, junior, in the Hyde Park Herald. The two plan to continue working together for the sports column Gabe is writing for the newspaper which comes out once every two weeks.

JEREMY'S MOST RECENT photos, from his Independent Study project, are showcased in the High School Lobby alongside projects by Junior Sarah Tully, who is also working on an Independent Study in photography and Junior Mila Devonport and Senior Jason Rowley, who are in Advanced Photography.

"The photos are of me but as a physical representation of my father," Jeremy said. "There are many themes, including me as my father, my relationship with my father, my father's life and me becoming a man. It's by far the most personal work I've ever done. It's a big jump in my art work in that respect, going from more street photography to more conceptual photography."

Page produced by Mona Dasgupta

"WE LIVE in an age of constant communication and that communication is not restricted to just outside of the classroom," Jeremy said. "When it comes to cell phones, in a class of 20 or so students, it is very easy to conceal them and it is very tempting to engage in.

"I think this picture is funny because we have Alya Forster text messaging with the teacher teaching none the wiser in the background."

"Alya is not the only culprit of such acts, I myself text message during classes as do many other U-Highers. It's the real text book of U-High."

"CROSSWORD PUZZLES as well as things like Sudoku have become quite the in class phenomenon," Jeremy said. "Even though Phil Bohon may be the perpetrator, it is also clear that others in the class are simply not paying attention. However, this is not to say that such a misdemeanor happens during all classes at U-High. The fact that I had a camera out during class could have diverted students' attention."

"It's important to note that in this circumstance, Phil is diverting attention to a crossword puzzle. It's not like his mind is completely tuning out like if he were watching TV. While doing a crossword puzzle, you're increasing your knowledge of language and your knowledge of little facts. So it's not that he's not learning."
Spring teams take on big odds

Soccer girls again clinch League title

By Gabriel Bump
Sports editor

From winning Independent School League Championships to barely fielding enough players, spring teams experienced an array of emotions. Boosting an undefeated conference record, the girls’ varsity soccer team claimed its second Conference title in just as many years. Led by co-captains Lucy O’Keefe, Chrysie Delicata and Alison Foder, all seniors, the Maroons clinched the title with a victory over Lake Forest Academy, May 1 at home. Head Coach Mike Moses feels the feat was expected.

“IN TERMS OF who we’ve beaten and who were looking to, it’s pretty much going as I thought it would,” Coach Moses said. “But there are two things that concern me. One is not having all our players showing up for all the training sessions and games. Another is not getting off to a good start against good teams. The Homewood-Flossmoor game was 2-0 before you could have had a drink of water.

“It’s a collection of things. It’s about getting prepared on the bus. Lucy is having a great season. Gabby’s having a great season. Sometimes Emily on occasion needs to let the game come to her.”

Ending the season with a 1-1 draw against Timothy Christian, May 6 home, JV did not live up to its abilities because of erratic play, believes Head Coach Bannon Stroud.

PARTICIPATING in fewer meets before the ISL Championship, May 2 at Lake Forest Academy, than previous years, the girls’ track and field team still came away with the title. Although the girls won every race, the runners had to overcome more jitters than usual before the meet, according to Junior Leah Sibener, co-captain with Junior Emily Kuo and Seniors Shannon Kimball and May Fu.

“People were a lot more nervous,” Leah said. “Because we haven’t had that many meets. But all the girls did magnificently. Shannon won the mile. She won it her freshman year, she couldn’t run her sophomore year and she came in 3rd last year. So it’s a great way for her to end her U-High career.

“USUALLY WE have seven or eight meets before state, but this year we only have five. But the teams really gear up, they’ve been working a lot. Justin and Jonathan have done very well and they’re both freshmen. Emily’s been doing well, but she usually just comes to the meets because of soccer. She’s also always bruised up so she’s had to drop out of some events.

“Both Matt and Niels are great to have on the team; they’re the life of the party. Jonathan was injured and still came to practice every day. They’re also very fast, which always helps.”

Led by co-captains Don Truett, junior, and Tom Brewer, Jarus Singh and Philip Verma, all seniors, the boys’ track and field team placed 3rd at the meet.

LOYING MOST of their games by only a few runs, boys’ varsity baseball men struggled with finishing down the stretch, with a 9-8 record as of Midway deadline.

For Junior Mike Casey, co-captain with Seniors John Wasik and Van Sandwich, the team’s inability to close matches doesn’t show the Maroons true talent.

“So far it’s been a disappointment record wise,” Mike said. “Our record does not reflect how good we are. We’ve blown some games and lost a few by one run. The Latin game was big because we had the scoring run on second and they called the game.

“But in the ISL, there really isn’t a team that’s better than the others. It’s really up for grabs. Van Sandwich and Mark Woerner have really improved this year.”

“MARK HAS been consistently getting on base. Both of them have definitely improved the most out of anyone else on the team.”

The JV team compiled a 1-6 overall record as of Midway deadline.

LACKING TEAM consistency, the boys’ varsity tennis team has relied heavily on individual performances to compensate for a missing winning rhythm, according to Coach Gerald Hanck.

“At this point in the season we’ve been struggling a little,” Coach Hanck said. “I don’t think that everyone has played well at the same time. I’ve certainly been pleased with Freshman Tyler Anderson, who plays singles. He has to be the best player on each team and he’s done pretty well.

“TM A little surprised that our one doubles, Sandy and Evan, are playing so well, because it’s their first year playing together. But their chemistry is great.”

With poor weather conditions adding insult to an injury filled season, J.V. Coach Juliana Lazarovich feels the team, at times, had just enough to amass a 3-1 conference record.

“IT SEEMS like we’re always missing someone or our games are getting rained out,” Coach Lazarovich said. “A lot of the time we have to make last second changes. We already have a small team, so there are barely enough extras.”

The MEDICI Wall...

Where individuality soars above the rest.

SOMETIMES A WALL IS BETTER LEFT STANDING.

LUNGING IN front of a Lake Forest Academy Midfielder during a May 1 home game, Chrysie Delicata helped the Maroons win 2-1 and clinch the conference title.

Photo by Leslie Mounfield

Our record does not reflect how good we are. —Mike Casey

Keeping Up

BASEBALL

Chicago Christian, April 17, home: Varsity lost 5-4, JV lost 12-3, North Shore County Day. April 22, home: Varsity won 12-1, Latin, April 24, home: Varsity lost 7-6, JV tied 7-7, Francis Parker, April 25, away: JV lost 7-11, Lake Forest Academy, April 29, away: JV won, 10-5; North Shore County Day. May 6, away: Varsity won 10-4, Francis Parker, May 8, away: result post Midway deadline, Seton Academy. May 9, away: result post Midway deadline, Lake Forest Academy, May 13, away: result post Midway deadline.

GIRLS’ SOCCER

North Shore County Day, April 22, home: Varsity won 5-0; JV tied 0-0, Lincoln Park High School. April 24, home: Varsity won 4-0, Morgan Park Academy, April 24, away: JV lost 2-0, St. Ignatius, April 25, home: JV lost 3-0, Latin, April 29, home: JV lost 9-0, Francis Parker, April 29, away: JV lost 2-0, Varsity 0-0, JV tied 1-1, Lake Forest Academy, May 1, home: Varsity won 2-1; JV lost 1-0, Timothy Christian, May 6, home: Varsity won 5-0, JV tied 1-1, St. Ignatius, May 8, away: result post Midway deadline, Michael McAuliffe, May 15, away: result post Midway deadline.

BOYS’ TENNIS

Fenwick, April 23, away: Varsity lost 4-1, JV lost 3-2, Francis Parker, April 25, away: Varsity won 5-0, JV won 4-1, Walter Payton, April 30, home: Varsity won 4-1, Morgan Park Academy, May 6, home: Varsity won 5-0, St. Ignatius, May 7, away: Varsity lost 4-1, JV lost 2-0.
“During the games I sometimes catch myself staring at Emily Kuo with the ball because she mesmerizes me with her skill.”

—Lucy O’Keefe, senior

Ambitious Fencing Club to become a team in fall

By Mitchell Stern
Midway reporter

Ending their third year as a club, fencers will become a team next year.

“Compared to some other clubs, the members of the fencing club are definitely more committed,” Athletic Director David Ribbons explained. “They’re making an investment in the equipment and this year in particular, the club is more interested in competing. There seems to be sustained interest in the sport, which is important when you are deciding whether something should become a team.”

Fencers have tried to form a team for several years, according to Senior Alexa Mine, co-captain with Senior Kenan Gungor.

“07 Graduate Marcel Babai, myself and some other fencers have made many attempts towards making the fencing club a team,” Alexa explained. “We’ve tried recruiting more people into the club, we’ve tried involving the parents and we even had a previous fencing coach named Peter Habala who was with us for two years. So, I’m happy that after all the work the club is finally going to become a team.”

“There is going to be more structure, people aren’t going to have to pay for all of the expenses, transportation is going to be provided and it’s going to be a varsity sport. So, coincidentally, more people are going to join.”

Though the Fencing Club isn’t a team yet, it acts as one, according to Kenan.

“Everyone takes their own transportation to tournaments because we aren’t technically a team yet,” Kenan explained. “However, once we all get to the destination, everything is different and we are more like a team. For instance, even though the boys’ fencing events finish before the girls’, many of us will stay and support them until we are all finished.”

Serving as coach for seven months for the eight member Fencing Club, Bakhyt Abdikulov said he is investigating a possible trip to Moscow, Russia, where more than 26 other fencing teams will compete in an international tournament.

“The club is improving rapidly and I think that going to Moscow will give them more experience,” Mr. Abdikulov explained. “Fencing is an unpredictable sport and being ready as much as possible for that. So, by going to this tournament, where there will be other fencers from all around the world, it would introduce them to some of the different facets of a fencing that one might encounter in different places from around the world.”

How a little sister became a big soccer star

By Rafi Khan
Midway reporter

Relaxing her exhausted 5 foot, 4 inch frame on a blue cafeteria table one sunny April afternoon after school, All-State soccer player Emily Kuo, junior, savors a rare calm moment between her demanding loaded schedule and the girls’ varsity soccer game against North Shore Country Day School.

Minutes later, her friends arrive and a smile forms instantly on her round face. Her short, jet-black hair bounces as she laughs and horesses around. As game time nears, she switches to her soft-spoken game-time mentality, grabbing her traditional pre-game apple and heads over to Jackman Field.

Ten years ago, Emily watched her brother John, U-High ’06 graduate and Midway Editor-in-Chief, playing American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) from the sidelines, yearning to join in the fun.

“John started playing soccer and I thought it was pretty cool,” Emily said. “I guess I kind of followed him into the sport. I asked my parents to register me in AYSO, then I joined the Hyde Park Storm three years later with the friends I made at AYSO. That’s where I learned all the fundamentals and really started to like playing soccer.”

Aside from winning a wide range of high school soccer awards including Independent Soccer League’s Athlete of the Year, she was featured in the Chicago Tribune last month for her prowess in soccer, math and track. With her wide range of talents, Emily remains undecided about her future.

“I haven’t thought much about careers,” Emily said.

“I’ve been at Lab since Nursery School and was born and raised in Hyde Park, which leaves me with a lot of options.

“I definitely want to go to college and my parents don’t really have an issue with whether I go to an Ivy League school or not, they just want me to go to one that’s right for me and for good. I want to go to a school that has a good balance between athletics and academics. After college, I really not sure what I’m going to do.

“I guess I’m pretty good at track and math, too. I did pretty well during the indoor track season, but I’m doing soccer now so I can’t always practice with the track team.

“I am taking A.P. Statistics this year and probably going to take Math Seminar and Honors Calculus at the University next year because there really isn’t much else for me to take.

“Emily’s intelligence, playing style has contributed to her success, including leading varsity in scoring since her freshman year, feels Girls’ Varsity Coach Mike Moses.

“She’s always near the ball and ready to make a quick, smart decision,” Coach Moses said. “That combined with her technical skill is what makes her so effective.

“She supports everything exceptionally and off the field, I just wish she’d be more vocal and make herself heard.”

SPORTS GABE BUMP

Here we go again: Da Bears, will they ever get it right?

WHAT IS usually one of the most exciting times of year for me as a football fan has turned into a ritualistic slap in the face.

Feversibly checking every picks outlet daily in order to catch all of the off-season gossip, I am continually disappointed. Not one sentence of cooler talk has breathed an ounce of hope into my beloved Bears.

Not-so-Sexy Rexy is still Lovie’s guy, offensive sparkplug Bernard Berrian relocated to division foe Minnesota and the front office didn’t address any of their scoring needs this past April. Given that the Bears had 11 draft picks, one would expect at least one player to regard as high-five worthy.

Instead of trading for or signing a premier running back, the Bears drafted yet another back up for Cedric Benson, Tulane’s Matt Forte.

But who knows, maybe this season Benson will finally live up to the hype that has surrounded him since he was drafted fourth overall in 2005. With a star-studded free agent pool, the bears signed unproven, fifth-year receiver Brandon Lloyd and brought back slow, clumsy receiver Marty Booker, one front office isn’t just continuing a long trend of risky off season gambles and blunder, now they’re repeating old mistakes.

They might as well have resigned former 1st round draft pick Cade McNown. Even the rule that would prevent teams from kicking out of bounds during kickoff was rejected this off-season.

That could possibly mean no more electrifying Devin Hester highlights. Without Hester, it’s hard to imagine picking up on the Bears’ offense. But what could turn a leaf on the cowboys’ sails.

Unless Williams Perry, Jim McMahon, Walter Payton and Mike Singletary go back in time 20 years and Super Bowl shuffle their way onto Soldier Field, Bears fans should prepare for yet another mediocre season.
Looking through the window pane with an inquisitive glare, Junior Stephen Heinz eagerly anticipates the hidden treasures that will soon befall his eyes. Offering Terry Precision Bicycles for Women, WHEELS & THINGS provides the perfect belated Mother's Day gift for forgetful sons and daughters.

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