Shakespeare returns to May Festival stage

By Alex Kleiman
Midday reporter

Up on three circular platforms, fairies, kings and queens will fiercely trod, gracefully twirl and rambunctiously shoot 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.-8 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 stage. 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 Martinez, 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 role."

Fairies in flowy, bright colored sprite-like garments and rustics in peasant-like outfits in earthy tones will brighten the staging, said Junior Kelly Kovacev, 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."

"And loosed his love-shaft smartly from his bow," Oberon, King of the Fairies (Robert Webber), explains to his henchman, from left, Ivan Winslow and Devon Martin and Puck (Joe Boisvert). A Spring Production innovation, the circular stage sections will provide a multilevel setting for the stage action and choreography.

"Dancing around their queen Titania (Marrissa Miles-Coccaro), left, fairies Lauline Gough, Robin Shapiro, Kelly Kovacev 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 Boisvert moves at front of Puck. When the photo was taken, the stage setting, including a backdrop, was still being constructed.

Faeries, do a dramatic, passionate dance. Oberon's henchmen do several energetic, determined leaps, 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.

"There's a dance for each group of actors," Sage said. "The rustics do a comical, lighthearted jig. Titania and Oberon, the Queen and King of the fairies, do a dance that covers the stage, and the fairies do a graceful dance with lots of twirls.

"This is the first play I've ever tried out for so I was shocked to get a lead role. I have to practice so many emotions at once. It's hard to find a way to portray so many emotions at once."

Since there are a lot of good, enthusiastic people in theatre 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 different each year and each different movement to match a different show."

"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)
Senior Prom to bloom with accent on nature
By Denise Akusomah
Midway reporter

H ot pink, bright green and vivid or­ange will be the color scheme for the elegantly themed Senior Prom to be held May 22 at Cannon Hall. In case of rain, dinner will move inside. Parking will be available on Cannon Drive, Next to Cannon River, or at the Lincoln Park Zoo.

ENTERING THE stone floor lobby adorned with shiitake veal glaze served with Potatoes Anna and vegetables, said Alya Forster, Prom Committee cochairperson with Amanda Pappas, seniors. "We like that it is eco-friendly and that we will be working with what is available.

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

SEATED at 10 to each round table, Promgo­ers will have a three course dinner catered by Greg Christian Catering.

"At dinner, people have chosen between three options; a vegetable strudel with a feta cream sauce, a potato gratin with Italianian glaze served with mashed potatoes and vegetables and steak braised in beef meal with shallots, a veal glaze served with Potatoes Anna and vegetables.

"We were really pleased with our audience of Promgoers, D.J. Wayne Hampton is expected to play more than the typical genres of dance music.

"Unlike hometowning 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 '90s for variation. We recognize that everyone doesn't listen to what is usually played at dances, so we want to accommo­date everyone.

VOTING FOR Prom King and Queen will take place at Prom.

"We will have a vote for one girl and one boy from the top three nominees," Alya said.

"Chaperons will vote the counts once every hour, and every hour the winner will be announced.

Focusing on classical and baroque style, the Orchestra will perform four numbers, two from the baroque period and two contempo­rary pieces, explained Orchestra Director Rozlyn Torto. "Our strongest genre is Baroque music so that's what we're trying to highlight in this concert," Ms. Torto said. "But we will also perform Bach's concerto for two violins, which will feature Jonathan Zhou and David Chung."  

Rites of May play
By Emily Roberts
Midway reporter

Discussing her experiences in writing, young adult author Deb Caletti will discuss her newest book "The Fortunes of Indigo Skye," 12:45 p.m. Thursday, May 22 at Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57th Street.

In another concert, the U-High Orchestra will perform four numbers, two from the baroque period and two contempo­rary pieces, explained Orchestra Director Rozlyn Torto. "Our strongest genre is Baroque music so that's what we're trying to highlight in this concert," Ms. Torto said. "But we will also perform Bach's concerto for two violins, which will feature Jonathan Zhou and David Chung."

Iona Hall delivered a performance art. The onion, she explained, created the question, was she crying because of her life or crying because of the onion. Another concert, the U-High Orchestra will perform with the U-High Band, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20 at Mandel Hall.

The High School groups performing at the Choral Festival include the High School Choir; all female Bella Voce (Italian for "beautiful voice"); and coed Bel Canto (Italian for "beautiful song"), 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 thank them for their dedication, commitment and skill.

We are meeting the U-High Band to play six pieces, Band Director Brad Brinkner, Music Department chairperson, said the Band's of­fering will include several songs from the "50s for variation. We recognize that everyone doesn't listen to what is usually played at dances, so we want to accommodate everyone.

"Unlike hometowning and formal, we want to vary the types of music played," she said.

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Author to talk about new book
"This is going to be the best Prom anyone has ever seen.
And I'm not kidding."
--Alya Forster, senior
HELPING RAISE more than $2,000 for the Save Darfur Coalition, 150 U-Highers and their guests grooved to the fast-paced beats of D.J. Lil John at the Dance for Darfur held at the Mystery Hotel in honor of the Black Students' Association, the dance featured a rap about being a refugee by junior Ike Edgerton and Sophomores P.T. Bell, a remix by DJ's Entertainment and an Indian Dance performance by the Bhangra Team.

At the ticket table, BUSI members Lauren Stewart, left, and Madeline Hor greet guests including Joe Hurst.

Four seniors have received $2,500 awards in the National Merit Scholarship program. The 10 winners come from suburban schools, the other attends University High in Normal.

EXCHANGE—After two years of planning a trip to China, student representatives, Christina Delicata, Gabrielle Hannah Chaskin and Emily Ehrmann; Hillary Gimpel, Victoria Rogers, archival pigmented ink; and reps, also worked with the Black Students' Association to select the students.

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**On schedule**

**U-HIGH MIDWAY | TUESDAY MAY 13, 2008**

**Faculty considers daily schedule alternatives**

By Gabriel Bump

Associate editor

Walking into his first class one 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’s schedule changes 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 Franke, faculty chairperson, then researched different high school schedules from around the nation with Assistant Registrar Brent LaRowe. 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 day, according to Mr. Franke.

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 demolishing the days of the week from the times you meet with your classes,” Mr. Franke 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. LaRowe explained that the process is largely based on trial and error.

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

“IMAGINE YOU’RE just scheduling your Saturday,” Mr. LaRowe explained. “It’s just chopping up certain times in the day. “There isn’t a limit to what we can do, so there isn’t really a clear front-runner. If we decide to go with a rotating schedule, it will be as concise but it won’t be as consistent.

“We’re at a school with some of the brightest kids in the country, certainly in Chicago. If changing the scheduling around means that students have to get better at managing their time, then I think we can get used to that.

“IT MIGHT be rough when the schedule changes in September, but by October they should be used to it.”

With the current schedule in place since 1964, a new one would bring a much needed change to U-High, believes Mr. Horvat.

“We’ve had the same schedule for 44 years with a few slight changes,” Mr. Horvat said. “This is the first school I’ve taught at where teachers only have classes for 180 minutes a week. We meet four classes a week a for 45 minutes. Teachers are still trying to manage a lot of material.

“During this process, we’ve never said that we’re going to keep it the same as it’s been. The faculty feels the pressure; they feel like they’re rushed. If teachers are at a school where there’s a fire drill or a day off they 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 Hoyt. Other members include Mr. Horvat, Mr. Franke, Theatre Technical Director Allen Ambrosetti, History Teacher Chris Janus and Foreign Language Teacher Elvira Pellitteri.

The committee is planning to create a new schedule that will be ready for the fall, and hopes to have a new schedule in place by the fall.

**Weekly Update**

**U-HIGH MIDWAY | TUESDAY MAY 13, 2008**

**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 activism, during lunch, May 19-23 in U-High 103-104.

Organized by Junior Kate Roet and Freshman Rose Traubert, the week was planned by nine students and will be advised by History Teachers Chris Janus, Andrea Martonffy, Charles Branham and Cindy Jurisson.

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, not just watch the news.”

Each day of the week will cover a different theme.

Confirmed speakers are as follows:

**TUESDAY, MAY 20— South Side community organizer Mike Kruglik, on his experience with grassroots political organizing.**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 21— National Obama Finance Chairperson Penny Pritzker, mother of Junior Donald Traubert and Freshman 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.**

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**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.**

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**Photos by Helen Vines**

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

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“Right now we are trying to figure out where the bottle necks are that prevent us from scheduling an eight period day.”

—Baker Franke, Computer Science Teacher

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"PT is really creative. We never get bored with what we're doing and we always get a lot done together. I'd say we make a good team."

—Eugene Lee, Sophomore

Calls from the Fire Swamp

by Eric Cochrane

CHARACTER SKETCH ANDREW SYLORA

Experimenting with music, exploring the art of recording

A 14-year-old boy with glasses and a long ponytail, Andrew Sylora, is at his laptop computer. He has just finished a new track for his experimental music project. "It's a big gift, but the project is even that much bigger," he says. "As a local businessman my dad was everyone else will step up accordingly," Sylora's father, Mr. David Sylora, said.

Mr. Magill said. "This is just a starting point and hopefully the Lab Schools has ever received, has Lab Schools Director David Magill will be among speakers. The reception is invitation-only."

"In addition to the fact that this is so much bigger."

A recognition 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 these 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 our school classrooms, the iris lies sheltered 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, juristic sideway stares lit­ ing the route. Various behind-the-back insults which somehow manage to lose the valuable barrier for its secretive feelings. The peculiar emotion at­ tached to awkward eye contact can sometimes far outweigh an abusive word.

Different elements contribute to embarrassing school situations and personal awkwardness. Circu­ lar table arrangements allow for quick, easy inspection of the surrounding students, providing the ideal habitat for entangled eyesights. Times aplenty for a firm wave that some­ one mistakenly believes to be in his/her direction and neglects to account for the true receptor of the friendly hello. 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 word.

Translucent eyes usually give the impression of a space-adventuring mind while the anchored body bears the earthly con­ demnation. Times aplenty for a firm wave that some­ one mistakenly believes to be in his/her direction and neglects to account for the true receptor of the friendly hello. 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 word.

As the Midway sees it

The campaign dumbs down

Watching the T.V. news and reading the head­ lines, 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 family, but misses the point about the election’s defining issues: the economy, the war in Iraq, health care, jobs and edu­ cation.

Responding to the trivia highlighted in media cam­ paign coverage, Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) called such news “the political silly season.” But the “silly sea­ son” threatens to distract politics by creating such a sen­ sation out of candidates’ personal lives that voters may be very un­ informed about the real issues.

The danger of the current news seems to lie not in focus on ridiculously the war and the econ­ omy, but also in portraying guilt 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. Accu­ sations that Senator Obama shares the Rev. Wright’s ex­ treme views on race relations only make the controver­ sial Chicago minister a spectacle.

The media’s misplaced coverage has even reached back to Hyde Park. Senator Obama’s acquaintance with Uni­ versity 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 ex­ actly what Senator Hillary Clinton remembered about standing on a tarmac in war-torn Bosnia in 1996. No­ bel Prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz reports in a new book, “The Three Trillion Dollar War,” that the war is costing the United States along with thou­ sands of soldiers’ lives, over $10 billion a month, which could be spent on education, health care and job cre­ ation. Meanwhile, in 2008 the total federal education spending amounts to only $62.6 billion, down $3 mil­ lion 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-High­ ers, the issue is to look beyond the campaign noise to the real concerns that make this election a turning point.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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U-High Midway

Say what?

Compiled by Rohini Tobaccowala

Who would be your dream Senior Prom date?

POSSNER, sophomore: Hmmmm, I think Dan Humphrey from "Gossip Girl" would be the ideal prom date. He's cute and I'm hop­ ing he'd be like the sweet character he plays on the show. He seems to fit the ste­ reotypical Prom date, but I'm not sure who'd buy me flowers.

PHILILLAIRE, junior: My perfect Prom date would be Rohini To­ baccowala. The reason is, I'd pick her because I love my star baby and I think the height dif­ ference would be funny. But in all seriousness, we'd have a good time and it'd make her white.

SARA, junior: I'd choose Larry King because I want to meet him and I like his suspend­ ers, his bowtie and the questions he asks in his interviews. I mean he's had eight wives, so he's obviously good with the ladies. He could also be chivalrous and a good conversa­tionalist and a very good dancer.

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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 by 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, goose-pimping 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. Spurlock’s expedition is recorded in his second documentary, “Where in the World is Osama bin Laden?”

After exposing the dangers of McDonalds 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 filmmaker also interviews locals about bin Laden’s whereabouts and his general influence on the Middle East. Spurlock’s motive is nauseatingly self-important: his wife is pregnant with their 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. The movie then becomes a basic history lesson of the Middle East, explaining events with as little detail, but as many cartoon graphics, as possible.

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, Nintendoesque 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

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 Española with Smashed potatoes and tomatoes sliced with a salad; Pan con Tomate, Jamon y Queso, tomato bread topped with ham and cheese; Gambas a la plancha, grilled shrimp with garlic, lemon and olive oil; and Montaditos de Setas, portabella mushrooms in a white wine sauce; and Gambas a la plancha, grilled shrimp with garlic, lemon and olive oil.

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.
Considering our Olympiad team was outnumbered 22 to one, we had a pretty good finish.

-Abraham Kohrman, junior

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 student division to the 300 to 700 student division, the team remained in the smaller division for the April 15 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 Regionals, the Science Olympiad team placed 2nd at 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 Rafi 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 Math Team dominated their grade level competitions, all placing 1st. The sophomore team earned 2nd place.

Freshman Charles Du, 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 up until last year," Frank explained.

"Still, the eight-person teams and the calculator team didn't do as well as they could have, so there was room for improvement. But the incoming freshmen are so good, even 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 Elisabeth Morant, junior and Sophomore Claire Milled will represent U-High among 3000 participating students. Placing 1st in the Illini District Tournament April 28 at Downers Grove South High School, Elisabeth and Claire qualified for nationals.

"It was a really intense tournament," Elisabeth 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 the Glenbrooks. "It was still a fierce competition."

Model U.N. scores big in Big Apple

By Kyle Brunke
Associate editor

A New York finale ended in diplomatic victory. Finishing their season at Nationals March 12-15 at U.N. Headquarters, Model United Nations received a 1st place award for representing the United Kingdom in the Security Council. More than 3,000 high school students from around the world were coordinated by a staff of nearly 70 college and university undergraduates, with the 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 Street; 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 Randrup."
—Jeremy Randrup, junior

"THE ORIGAMI bird was made from a scrap of notebook paper during A.P. Physics," Junior Jeremy Randrup said. "Although Kate Reott 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 Randrup of the photos he shot as a class project assigned by Photography Teacher Liese 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 Advanced 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 Milla Devonport and Senior Jason Howley, 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 texting messaging with the teacher teaching none the wiser in the background."

"Alya is not the only culprit of such acts, I myself text messages 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 Bohan 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 tuned 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."

"IT'S FUNNY how in the background you can see 'Work on Poetry Project,' and then in the foreground you can see the computer is tuned into Cubs.com," Jeremy said. "Teachers give students laptops to do classwork on, but in doing so, they are also opening the doorway for students to be tempted by the entertaining internet world."

"WELL IT is refreshing to see at least one student reverting back to the old form of entertainment by reading a book," Jeremy said. "Calder Coleson pulls off the job miraculously by hiding his book underneath the ledge of the table so that the teacher cannot see it. I think that this picture relates a lot to the picture with the crossword puzzle because you can't argue that reading a book doesn't expand the vocabulary as well as the mind."
**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. Boasting 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, Chrissy Delicata and Allison Feder, 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 a drink of water.

“It’s a collection of things. It’s about getting prepared on the bus. Lucy is having a great season. Gabbie’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, j.v did not live up to its abilities because of erratic play, believes Head Coach Bannon Stroud.

**PARTICIPATING** in fewer meets before the ISL Championships, May 2 at Lake Forest Academy, than previous seasons, 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 Mya 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 great, 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 spring track. Matt was injured and still came to practice every day. They’re very fast, which always helps.”

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

**LOOSING MOST** of their games by only a few runs, boys’ varsity baseball members struggled with finishing down the stretch, with a 9-5 record as of Midway deadline.

For Junior Mike Casey, co-captain with Seniors John Wasik and Van Sandwick, 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 it’s their first year playing so well, because we are. It’s really up for grabs. Van Sandwick 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 j.v 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 play the best player on each team and he’s done pretty well.

“T’M 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 Lazarevich 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 Lazarevich 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.”
"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 Ribbens 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 done the same 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 all are finished."

Serving as coach for seven months for the eight member Fencing Club, Bakhyt Abdikolov said he is investigating a possible trip to Moscow, Russia, where more than 25 other fencing teams will compete in the International tournament.

"The club is improving rapidly and I think that going to Moscow will give them more valuable experience," Mr. Abdikolov explained. "Fencing is all about being in unpredictable situations 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 situations 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 overloaded 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 more soft-spoken game-time mentality, grabs her traditional pre-game apple and heads out 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 no one. I want to go to a school that has a good balance between athletics and academics. After college, I'm 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'm 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 intelligent playing style has contributed to her success, including leading varsity in scoring since her freshman year, feels Girls' Varsity Coach Mike Moses.

"She supports everyone exceptionally on and off the field; I just wish she'd be more vocal and make herself heard."
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.