



Photo by Emily Chiu

SENIOR FORMAL KING AND QUEEN nominees include by rows, from left: TOP ROW—Rachel Bishop, Ciara Zagaja, Lexie Mansfield and Richard Tomlinson; BOTTOM ROW—Zeke Upshaw, Nathan Bishop and Emily Kuo. ABSENT FROM PHOTO—Addie Epstein, Jack Hudson and Gabriel Bump.

Classes to elect Formal royalty

By Katherine Holt
Midway reporter

Blue and white streamers along the entrance to International House will signify Cultural Union's "wintery" theme for Formal, 8-11 p.m. Saturday, February 7.

Jamal Smallz, the D.J. for Homecoming will play songs students requested while nominating their grades King and Queen.

Tickets can be purchased from C.U. outside the Dean of Students office for \$8 a person and \$15 dollars a couple or at the door for \$10.

"I came up with new ways to get people excited about Formal, nominating people and voting," said C.U. President Isabel del Canto, senior. "When people came to nominate students in their class, I had them write on a slip of paper their favorite

song or their favorite music artist. So I'm hoping people will be more excited for formal if they know that music they like will be played."

"Since it is a Formal dance, girls should wear fancier cocktail dresses and boys should wear dress pants and button down shirts.

"Student Council is also having a surprise advertisement for Formal at 'Pack the Place' Friday, February 6 during half time. Were doing it to increase school spirit and to get people to go the game and Formal."

Selling soda for \$1 and water for \$2 outside the dance room, Senior Prom Committee will also run a coat check for \$1.

U-Highers and their guests must bring a school I.D. and guest pass filled out by Tuesday, February 3, according to Dean of Students Larry McFarlane. Royalty will be crowned towards the end of the night.

U-HIGH MIDWAY Tuesday January 27, 2009

Volume 83, Number 6

University High School

1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637

U-Highers experience historic ceremony

...as a Lab Schools dad becomes President

By Gabriel Bump
Editor-in-Chief

Everyone knows the age-old question: "If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?"

But what if a whole forest of century old redwoods is uprooted while the whole world listens, is any other noise heard?

LAST WEEK, Barack Obama officially took the last step in changing the landscape of American politics from a historical standpoint when he was sworn in as the first African-American President.

Millions of Obama devotees from across the globe braved arctic temperatures and filled the Mall in Washington, D.C. with cheers of elation, momentarily muting the abundance of global crises facing the nation.

For U-Highers the experience proved extra personal. The President was a Lab Schools dad and the family was from the community and U-Highers had campaigned fervently for him.

"MY MOM was sobbing when he read the oath," said Junior Amy Solomon, who served as the Obama Campaign's Illinois High School Coordinator. "It felt like everyone around me was part of my family."

"It's hard to wrap your head around it, to think that people will talk about this in history textbooks. It hasn't sunk in yet."

Effectively capturing history with a few sentences is a difficult, if



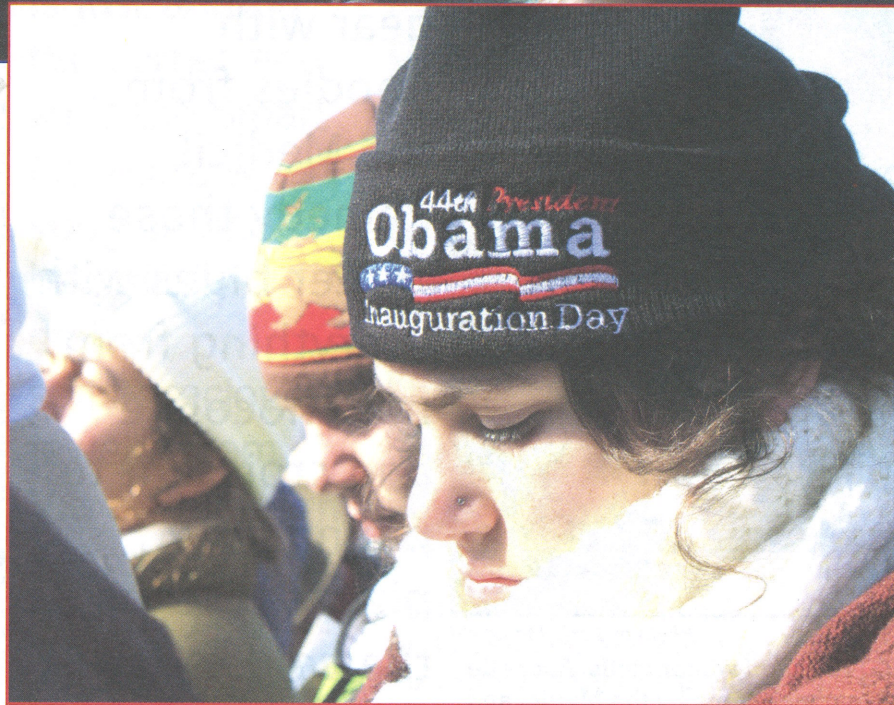
not impossible, task. For Donovan Mitchem, U-High '07, the significance of Obama's swearing-in proved hard to grasp yet could be summed up in five simple words.

"You know how people joke and say, it was the 'best day of their lives?'" Donovan explained. "But I can honestly say that it was the best day of my life. It's kind of surreal. I've never seen that many people excited about one thing."

"IT WAS getting nothing but colder and darker. But people just wanted to see he get out of his limo. Now everybody has a 'get to work' attitude. The party is over. It was a rightful celebration but people are anxiously waiting to see what he does."

Back at the Lab Schools, everything came to a halt when time came for the ceremony to begin.

With T.V. screens glowing throughout the school, most students packed into the cafeteria to share a moment in history they likely would be remembering the rest of their lives.



Photos by Amy Solomon

"I FELT the emotion of everybody around me," Senior Alex Zimmer said after experiencing last week's Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. Among several U-Highers there, Alex braved bitter cold to witness a singular moment in United States history. Junior Amy Solomon snapped these photos for this Midway front page, e-mailing them back to Chicago.

LOOKING INSIDE

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U-HIGHERS TRAVEL TO D.C. TO WITNESS HOLOCAUST REALITIES

Editor-in-Chief Tom Stanley-Becker unrolls a First Person Account of the annual, emotional Holocaust history elective field trip.



Art by Eric Cochrane

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NEED IDEAS FOR FORMAL WEAR? THE MIDWAY HAS GOT YOU COVERED

Fashion Guru Rohini Tobaccowalla dishes out tips for U-Highers looking for a look which will turn heads and win admiring glances.



Art by Eric Cochrane

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YOU ARE THERE

Sports Editor Matt Luchins brings you inside the emotion and pageantry of one of U-High's fiercest rivalries: U-High vs. Latin basketball.



Art by Eric Cochrane

2 Coming up

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009



"Senior Retreat is gonna be ridiculous. Chillaxin with my bromosapiens is something I've been looking forward to for a while."

—Nico Gomez, senior class president

Student Council survey looks to make school more green

By Ruiqi Tang

Associate editor

New water fountains, hand dryers and getting the school to place used paper in printers top the Student Council's agenda this quarter.

In response to student and faculty complaints about wasteful paper usage and warm water in U-High fountains, Student Council conducted a survey of 13 questions to gauge students' and faculty members' opinions about U-High recycling practices and water.

"If a large percentage of people feel the need to, for example, replace paper towels with hand dryers in the bathroom, the survey results will let the Administration know that," said Student Council President Addie Epstein, senior. "Hopefully, they will decide to do something about it and help make the school more green."

Asking questions including, "Would you support having hand dryers in the bathrooms in addition to paper towels?" and "Do you think that paper made of recycled materials should be used in the school printers?"

Student Council representatives phoned U-Highers in their respective grades and recorded the results. More than 58 faculty members received the survey in their mailboxes.

"There were a few questions that a large number of students reached a similar consensus on," said Senior Class Vice President Talia Nasr, who wrote the survey and compiled the results.

"For example, over 50 percent indicated that they would not drink from non-cold water fountains."

Student Council plans for Spring Quarter include an annual blood drive and two talent shows, one in collaboration with the Latin School of Chicago and Francis Parker Academy.

Seniors ready to Getaway

By Benny Wah

Midway reporter

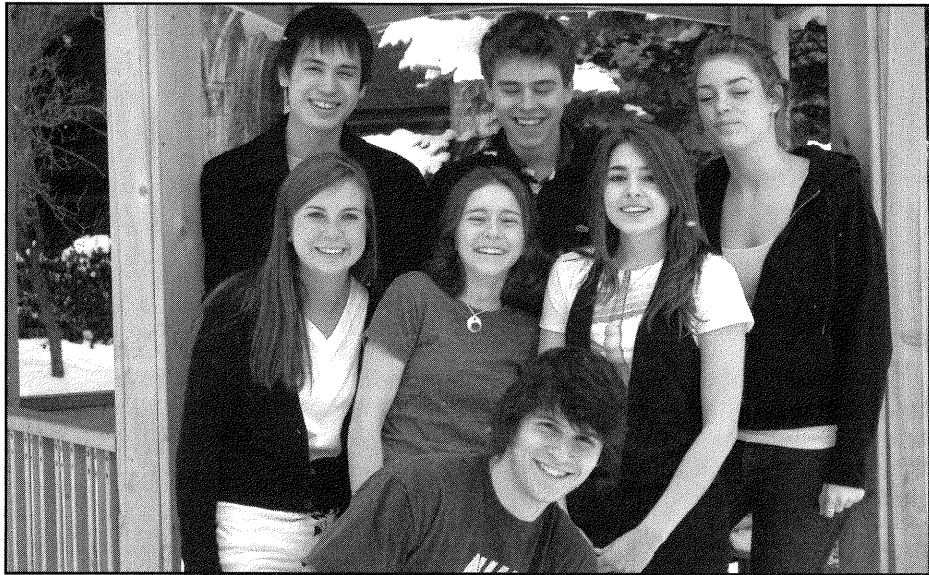
Snow-capped Chestnut Mountain overlooking the historic Galena River, a pool party, a dance with D.J., and sumo suit wrestling.

Those attractions await seniors after a three-hour bus drive starting at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, to three days at Senior Getaway at Eagle Ridge Resort, in the rolling hills of the Galena territory near the Illinois, Iowa and

Wisconsin border.

Skiing at Chestnut Mountain, ice-skating, bowling and an indoor pool and spa will be available to seniors, according to Dean of Students Larry McFarlane. The territory also offers hiking.

Seniors will stay in guest townhouses, seven to each with a faculty chaperon. The townhouses include kitchens with microwaves, toasters, coffee makers, stoves, fireplaces and T.V.s.



JUNIOR FORMAL KING AND QUEEN nominees include by rows, from left: TOP ROW—Max Craig, Andrew Cook, Kaia Tammen; MIDDLE ROW: Liz Abello, Julia Baird and Clare Casey; BOTTOM ROW—Oliver Elfenbaum. ABSENT FROM THE PHOTO: Sarah Lloyd, Jonah Breslau and Mario Gage



SOPHOMORE FORMAL KING AND QUEEN nominees include, from left: Sean Cusack, Maggie Carton, Henry Bergman, Jasmine Harris and Becky Fox. ABSENT FROM THE PHOTO: Julian du Buclet, Jonathan Portugal, Brienne Ellis and Miki Verma

SNAP Out Of It!

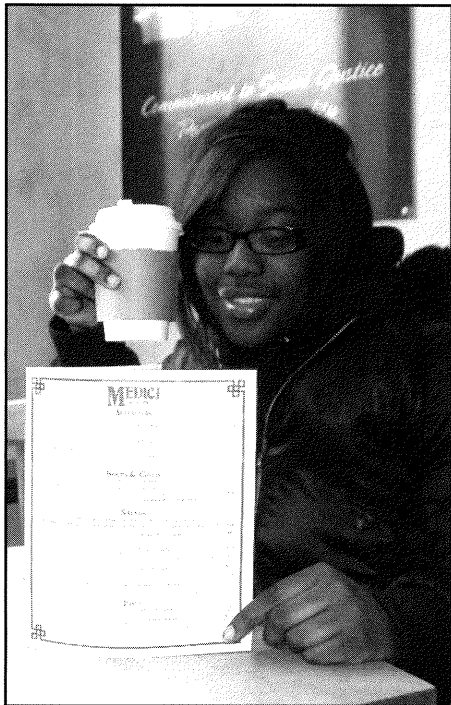


Photo by Lexie Mansfield

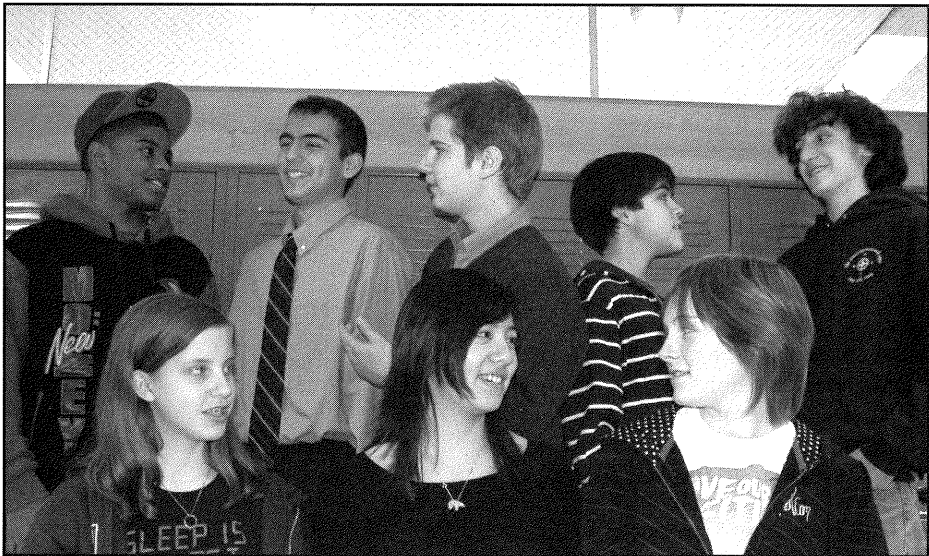
TO FEND off winter chills, Anchelle Akuamoah stops by the Medici and scans the wide-ranging menu while enjoying a hot cup of Earl Grey tea after school.

Get back into gear with goodies from the Medici! Remedy those winter blues with everything from hot chocolate and croissant to piping-hot pizzas. Escape the cold today and unwind at the Medici!



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Photos by Emily Chiu

FRESHMEN FORMAL KING AND QUEEN nominees include by rows, from left: TOP ROW—Myles Gage, Christian Castaneda, Danny Ilyin, Charlie Raffkin, Isaac Stanley-Becker; BOTTOM ROW—Amy Feldman, Leslie Sibener, Sydney Fishman. ABSENT FROM THE PHOTO: Victoria Bills and Lucy Cheng

Science Expo won't have fifth year

By Charles Jiang

Midway reporter

With no faculty member willing to replace Science Expo founder and coordinator Diane Snider, Middle School science teacher, the program won't take place this year.

Taking place the past four years on a Saturday in February, Science Expo offered demonstrations by about 150 student presenters from the Lower, Middle and High Schools. Parents and faculty members also presented.

Last year's High School demonstrations included a hovercraft and robot made by Science Team and "Cool Chemistry" by the A.P. Chemistry class. Middle School exhibits included wooden cars made by 6th-graders and 5th grade presentations of projects they started in October. Among Lower School exhibits were 3rd grade inventions and "Color-Change Chem-

istry" by 4th-graders. Presentations by adults included a pig eye dissection, "Science in Toys" and "Levitating Superconductors".

Several hundred students, parents and teachers attended the event.

"I'm the acting director at the Zen Buddhist Temple on the North Side," Ms. Snider explained. "Last November the priest was called away to a different temple and I took over her duties."

"Now I have almost no time for Science Expo, which takes many, many hours. None of the teachers offered to do it. I assume that they're just too busy with their work and families, so they weren't interested, not by lack of support, but because of the work and time needed."

Said Science Teacher Daniel Jones, "The short and skinny is, no one's willing to do it because it's a heck of a lot of work."

"We need to come to some agreement as to what matrix we can use for coming to agreement on salary. What is data that is relevant to the teachers? We have not had that conversation in advance."

—Lab Schools Director David Magill



Teachers and Students 3

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2009

Contract settlement draws differing views

By Tom Stanley-Becker

Editor-in-Chief

Though its contract with the University was ratified December 5 by the Faculty Association, some teachers believe the union should have pressed for more money in the current union contract through escalated job actions.

After almost a year without an agreement, the contract, which will remain in effect until June 2011, was approved 123-20. Provisions in the contract include an increase in pay and new retirement incentives.

RELIEVED ABOUT the settlement of negotiations, Lab Schoos Director David Magill believes certain understandings should have been in place prior to the start of negotiations.

"I don't think about either side winning or losing, it is about coming to agreement with which both sides can live," Mr. Magill said. "There is a very different opinion about what was a reasonable wage rate to agree. That's what held us up last spring and continued to into the fall. Although we had disagreements about the value of our agreement about why we believed different positions, it was never disrespectful."

Some teachers approved the contract more or less than others, according to Faculty Association President Spike Wilson, Lower School teacher.

"I THINK many members of the Faculty Association were relieved for the settlement in these financial times," Mr. Wilson said. "However, a number of teachers believed we were not strident enough as an Executive Board, as a union, for more money. I think it was a good contract. Everything is relative. A year ago, this would have been an excellent contract."

"Many faculty thought we had not made enough as per inflation. Retirement benefits were a very important issue. People at the top of the salary scale suffered significant losses in their retirement funds due to the economy. There was an emotional component too. One side is all about business and the other side, the teacher's side, said there is passion in it as well. The administration was being very respectful. The faculty looked at the numbers and translated them into the degree of respect the administration was giving the Faculty Association."

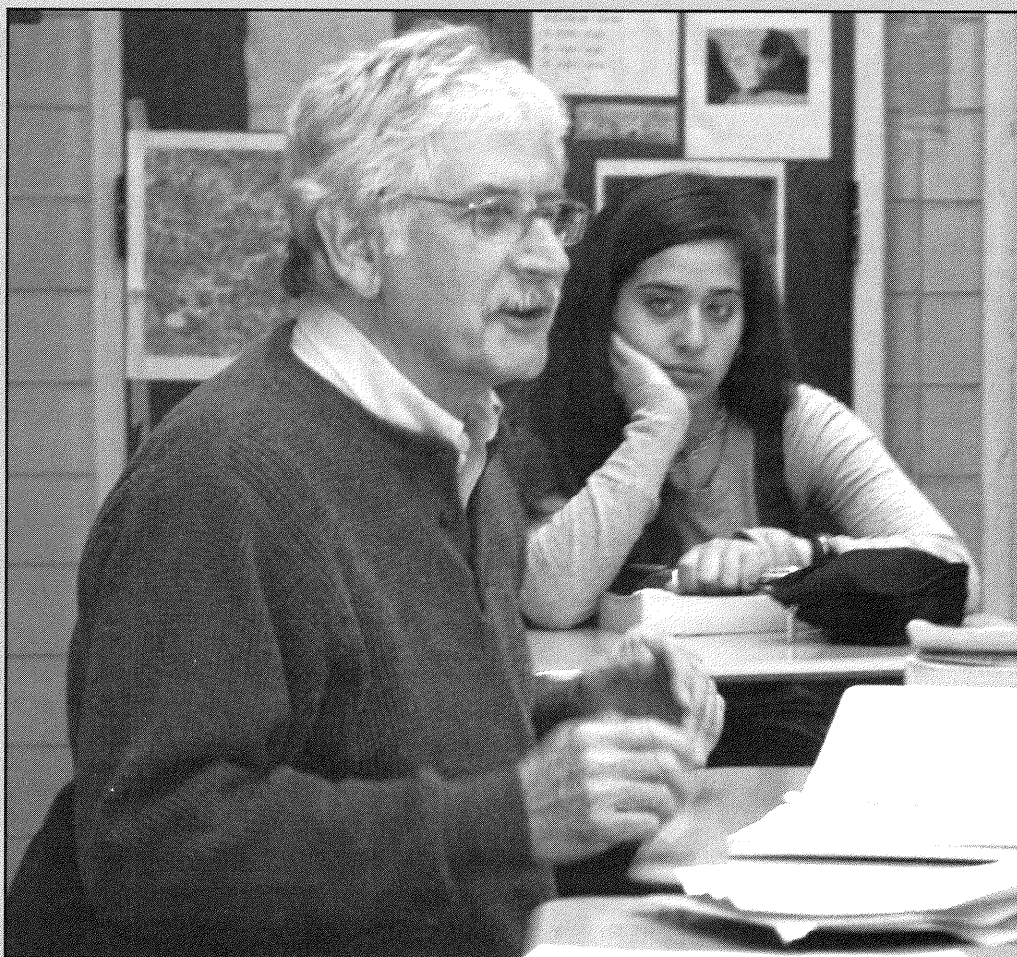


Photo by Loren Kole

TRAIN OF THOUGHT

FORMER ENGLISH TEACHER Hal Hoffenkamp, who retired in 2007, returned January 8 for a series of student-teacher discussions about Leo Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina," a novel which inevitably lead to deeply-involved and much talked about discussions in his classes.

The group will meet double lunch throughout the quarter. The discussions were arranged by English Teacher Darlene McCampbell. Mr. Hoffenkamp taught for 37 years here.

In the photo with Mr. Hoffenkamp, is Sophomore Mollie Rotmensch.



Photo by Emily Chiu

BUILDING PLANS GET ROLLING

BEFORE A MEETING of all Lab Schools teachers, Architect Joseph Valerio outlined the architects' procedures for developing new school facilities, December 16 in Judd 126.

The architectural firms Valerio Dewalt Train and FGM Architects have been commissioned to guide a Lab Schools expansion and renovation, which tentatively include Fine Arts

and Early Childhood centers.

They have been meeting in a series of discussions with Lab Schools community members including teachers, who were told to "dream out loud" about what they'd like.

A faculty party followed the architects' presentation, with a Lebanese menu catered by Cedars Mediterranean Kitchen.

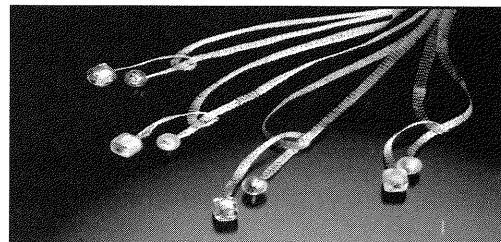
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Photo by Rachel Turner

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"It was a great experience and I'm glad Ms. Shapiro gives people that opportunity each year to take the Holocaust unit and go to D.C."
—Vanessa Ramirez, senior

A witness to the sweep of history

By Tom Stanley-Becker

Editor-in-Chief

Timuel D. Black, Jr. has not just written and taught history. He has lived it.

He watched the first and second Great Migrations, when African-Americans moved from the South to Northern cities, liberated Buchenwald death camp during World War II and marched with Martin Luther King, Jr.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Mr. Black, now 90, moved to Chicago during the first Great Migration when he was 8 months old.

Before serving in World War II, Mr. Black attended Edmund Burke Elementary School and Wendell Phillips and DuSable High Schools.

After the war, he earned a B.A. at Roosevelt University and an M.A. at University of Chicago and went on to teach history and social studies in high schools in Chicago and then at colleges.

A special guest of Illinois Senator Dick Durbin at the Inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama, Mr. Black is working on the third volume of a book series entitled "Bridges of Memory."

In a Hyde Park-Kenwood apartment, Mr. Black, wearing a dark blue shirt and jeans and

seated in a chair amidst stacks of books, explained previously that would not have been possible.

"There is a time where I couldn't have lived in this apartment very comfortably because of racism, race prejudice," he said with a touch of disgust.

"There was a thing called a restrictive covenant. It was an agreement between landlords and landowners that said they would not rent or sell to people of color, which then created a black ghetto right around here, just west of Cottage Grove.

"Restrictive covenants concentrated the black community into a small area in the South and West Sides. The City government and many others formalized those agreements.

"This period is roughly between 1915 and 1945, right after World War II. The University of Chicago administration supported restrictive covenants. We, blacks, couldn't come across Cottage Grove unless we were working over here."

Educated on the South Side of Chicago, Mr. Black began to experience injustice at a young age.

"During the Great Depression, I was in elementary school at Edmund Burke Elementary School at 54th and South Park (now King Drive)," he said with a smile. "I had gone to elementary school with young white friends. When they moved out of the

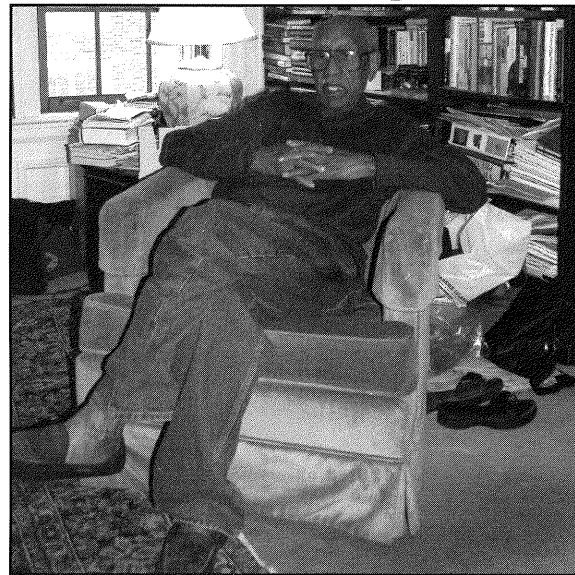


Photo by Rachel Turner

MR. TIMUEL BLACK

Recounting the terror of injustice

neighborhood, they could come visit me but I couldn't come visit them here in Hyde Park-
(continues on page 16)

FIRST PERSON TOM STANLEY-BECKER

Reflecting on a telling experience

"THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU SAW; The next time you see injustice; The next time you witness hatred; The next time you hear about genocide." I kept returning to this message on the front wall of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Entering through huge glass doors, I walked along a lit track in the front of



Tom

the museum, mimicking the railway tracks that took millions of people to their deaths in the concentration camps.

Sixteen students in Ms. Susan Shapiro's Holocaust elective course traveled to Washington, D.C.

November 22-25 along with French Teacher Steven Farver.

We made three visits to the Holocaust Museum, researching in the library and looking at the exhibits from "Daniel's Story," which portrays a child's life in Nazi Germany, and "A Dangerous Lie: The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," which explains the anti-Semitic document that spreads lies about the Jews.

"Each floor of the museum required a conscious effort," Senior Sam Shapiro said. "You had to think about the

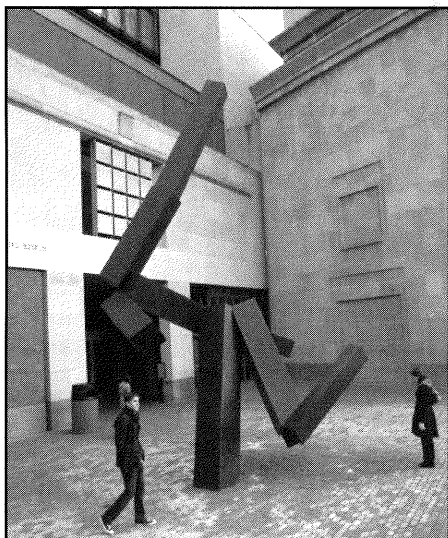


Photo by Joe Boisvert

AT THE U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Myles Woerner and Kelly Kovacs circle a sculpture representing a destroyed house.

images and information while bearing in mind that the events of the Holocaust were absolutely real.

"Although I spent several hours in the main exhibit, certain moments, for instance seeing the door to what functioned as a hospital in a Jewish ghetto and its chipped paint, made the history come distressingly alive."

As we waited for an elevator to take us to the museum's fourth floor so we could walk through the main exhibit—the exhibit starts at the top—we each picked up an identification card telling the story of a Holocaust victim.

FIRST PERSON RUIQI TANG

Diverse impressions from the Big Easy

"MAM'S MAKING MAMBO!"

Surrounded by more than 1,000 high school students from around the nation, I was jolted by Mayda Del Valle's energy as she boldly capers on stage and delivers her poem "In the Cocina."

A spoken-word artist, Del Valle combined sharp body gestures with vivid words to capture the commotion in her Puerto Rican mother's kitchen. The youngest poet and the first Latino person to win the Individual National Poetry Slam Championship in 2001, she proved the highlight of my experience at the People of Color Conference/Student Diversity Leadership Conference.

JETTING 800 MILES to New Orleans, six U-Highers attended the conference December 5-7 at Ernest N. Morial Convention Center with Teachers Ms. Liese Ricketts, Mr. Pete Miller and Mr. Charles Branham. The other delegates included Seniors Ruiqi Tang, Mila Devenport, Kayla Ginsburg, Juniors Kiara Davis, Mario Gage and Sophomore Sam Frampton.

Stepping out into a humid 60-degree weather, we boarded a white van that whisked us away from the airport to the Convention Center. Having attended last year, I anticipated the busy conference schedule crammed with workshops, group discussions and

speakers.

Despite meeting students of all ethnicities, sexual orientations, socioeconomic statuses and religions, I felt that many group activities were hastily glazed over because of time constraints.

For example, one explored gender stereotypes by having us classify adjectives, such as "delicate" and "smart," as either masculine or feminine. There was not enough time to discuss why students chose to designate a particular gender to an adjective and how their experiences have shaped their views.

THE LACK OF depth in group discussions frustrated me. An event designed to celebrate and embrace diversity began to lose its intensity—until Mayda Del Valle saved the day.



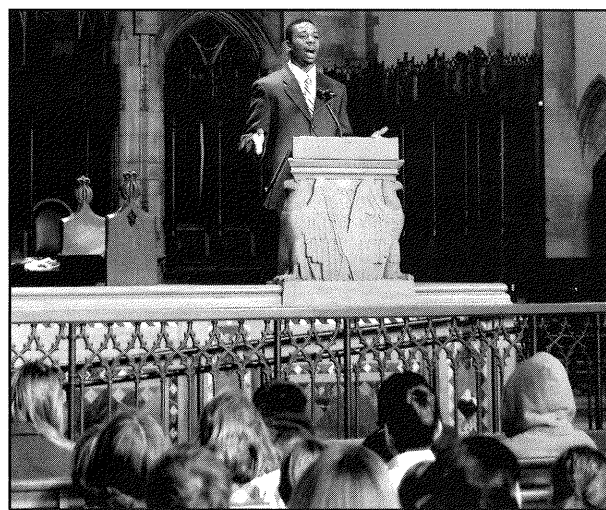
Ruiqi

Through her rhymes, she proudly shed light on her Latina background, her experience growing up in Chicago's South Side and her passion for writing. Her words struck a chord with everyone, regardless if you were an artist, a dreamer or a rebel.

"She was not only an influence to Latinas, but also to everyone at large," Kayla said, recalling Mayda's performance.

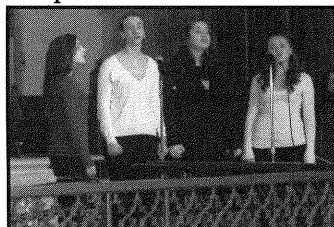
FOR ME, the ultimate goal is finding something you love and doing it for the rest of your life. Seeing someone who has attained that goal was truly inspirational."

Looking back, I couldn't have agreed more.



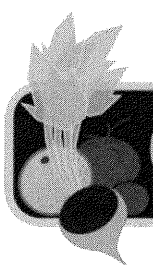
Photos by Rachel Turner

SPONSORED BY THE the Black Students' Association, the assembly included a recitation of Martin Luther King's "I've Been To The Mountaintop Top" speech by Senior Joe Hurst (photos from top) and the traditional "Africa" sung by Seniors Becca Marks and Amy Lucido and Juniors Loren Kole and Michael Angone.



Honoring a King's dream coming true

WHILE PRESIDENT Barack Obama's election marks a significant transformation in U.S. politics, the change needed towards equality is far greater, said 33rd District State Representative Marlow Colwin (Democrat), guest speaker for the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Assembly, January 16 in Rockefeller Chapel.



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"Though he seems like a tough guy outside, Joe is a softy. He is a very caring person and I can go to him whenever."
 -Lauline Gough, senior



Lorem Ipsum.....by Gene Cochrane



CHARACTER SKETCH BY ANDREW SYLORA

Photographer, actor, he's one versatile guy

FROM PORTRAYING lead roles in school productions to photographing protesters outside a courtroom in the Fox River suburb of Aurora, Senior Joe Boisvert has been captivated by both acting and photojournalism as different methods of artistic expression.

Clad in a brown t-shirt that matches his intense dark brown eyes and blue jeans that reflect his easygoing and open personality, Joe described how he initially started his acting career through persuasion by his friends.

"I was in Student Experimental Theatre when I was a freshman because all my friends were doing it," Joe explained. "I did it again the next year, but then junior year I directed a play in SET and also participated in the spring production. I think I really committed myself last year.

"I wouldn't define myself in roles, because I just adapt to every role and don't really prefer one over another. I did Puck in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and he's a light, buoyant character, but I love doing a whole spectrum of roles.

"When an audience is watching, their reactions define the experience of acting, how what you do controls how they will react and what goes through their minds. I love to give people something that's satisfying to watch."

Though he initially started out in Photography class, Joe credits Photography Teacher Liese

Ricketts for directing him towards Photojournalism.

"I originally took Beginning Photo with Ms. Ricketts and enjoyed a lot of the manual things such as the blackroom stuff," Joe said. "I was going to take Advanced Photography the year after, but after Ms. Ricketts persuaded me, I took Photojournalism instead and concentrated on it and learned to love it as an art form.

"I've been to a couple major events, including a very recent protest outside the Chicago Tribune building protesting the occupation of Gaza," Joe explained.



Art by Eric Cochrane
 JOE BOISVERT

"Emotions are very good things to take pictures of, especially at places such as protests where emotions and opinions are visibly strong."

Fellow photojournalist Jeremy Handrup, also a senior, praises Joe's proactive nature in pursuing interesting subjects.

"He's really an outstanding photographer," Jeremy said. "What's really impressive is the amount of work he puts outside of the classroom. He'll go to protests and rallies or other similar things that he finds interesting and just start taking pictures."

Reflecting on the possibility of acting or photojournalism as a permanent career, Joe sees two unique paths he can pursue and enjoy.

"I could see myself traveling the world as a photojournalist and witnessing events that are talked about in the news and capture those moments," Joe said. "It would be incredible, especially with the things going on around the world today, it is a great time to be a photojournalist.

"I would not hesitate to devote myself to acting, as I enjoy working not only as an actor but a director as well."

It's Zero Degrees...

But the U.M.'s Sure to Please

A few steps from U-High, University Market offers the perfect one-stop shop for snacks, beverages, groceries and even takeouts from favorite restaurants including The Nile. With a large selection of goodies and a friendly staff, the U.M. is the place to be no matter the weather.



Photo by Hanna Redleaf

DESPITE THE cold, Vanessa Ramirez heads over to the U.M. for freshly-made sub sandwiches and wraps. After scanning the impressive menu, Vanessa decides on a Mozzarella Sandwich.

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ALL-STATE CLARINET PLAYER



Photo by Kyra Stugill

CHOSEN FROM the top clarinetists in his district by directors of the Illinois Music Educators Association, Junior Andrew Sandwick has been named to the Illinois Music Educators Association 2009 All-State Band. After performing in a District band, November 22, Andrew was among nine clarinetists chosen for the All-State group.

Andrew has been playing clarinet for six years, ever since 5th grade. He says he doesn't just play for the school, he has also been taking private lessons since the middle of 6th grade.

Andrew practices an average of two hours a day. "I really like it and I can't stop!" he quipped.

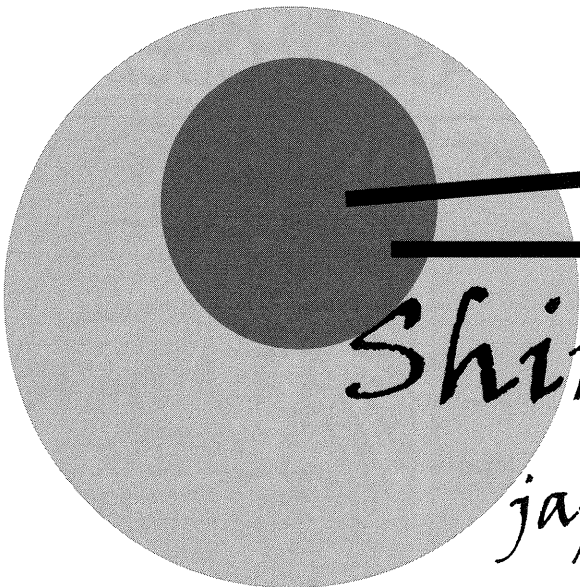
He could only get ready for his audition in two days, not knowing what music he would play.

Andrew will be playing at with the All-State band at the IMEA's annual convention in Peoria this Saturday.

Monday - Sunday : 11 A.M. - 10 P.M.

Lunch Buffet (14.99) : 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

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"We are meeting approximately three days each week and practicing speeches, so hopefully we will be prepared for Evanston."
-Claire Milsted, junior



Photo by Kyra Sturgill

Dance party club still plans to dance

IT'S BEEN THREE months since Dance Party Club's last get-together, but a new event could pop up at any time. "I formed Dance Party Club in December 2007 with Chrissy Delicata ('08 graduate) to relieve school-induced stress," said Senior Pilar Duplack. "We plan dance gatherings throughout the year at spontaneous times and random locations. Usually, we post events on Facebook

through our group a few days before." During double lunch, October 24 on the fourth floor of U. of C.'s Cobb Hall, Iona Hall, left, grooved to the rhythmic jammings of The Smiths with Ana Bezanilla and Nicole Mas-sad. About a dozen other U-Highers danced to a mix of alternative, pop and hip-hop and enjoyed cheese pizza from the Medici, Sprite and Diet Coke.

Seeking more participants, Math Team heads for Regionals

By Bill Stueben

Midway reporter

Heading into the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regionals, Saturday February 21 in West Suburban Naperville, the Math Team is seeking more members to raise its combined score in competitions.

Placing 3rd out of 5th at its North Suburban Math League meet December 4 at Hinsdale South in southwest suburban Darien, the U-Highers finished behind Neuqua Valley and Hinsdale South despite perfect scores from Sophomore Charles Du and Junior Joey Klonowski.

Asking math teachers to make

announcements and students to invite friends, Math Team members are recruiting newcomers, Head Coach Nadja Aquino said.

"It'd be a real shame if we lost our high standing because we don't have enough members at competition," she said. "At NSML meets, the top three scores from each grades count. We had two freshmen compete at Hinsdale South, meaning the other schools had one more paper count than we did.

"With a strong third freshman paper, we'd have a good chance of taking first or second place, especially with the ICTM Regional coming up, where there'll be a minimum of six competitors from each grade."

Debaters head for Evanston

By Joyce Harduvel

Midway reporter

When debaters head into their first Evanston High School Invitational, Friday and Saturday February 6-7, four of the 17 members will be missing because they don't want to miss the Formal Dance Saturday.

Going into their 10th of 17 scheduled tournaments, the debaters will argue the national topic of alternative energy.

After Evanston, six debaters face a February 14-16 Invitational at Harvard University in Cambridge Massachusetts. In addition to teams from across the country, a school from Beijing, China is competing.

At Harvard last year, two U-High teams won four debates and lost three.

In preparation for Harvard, the team is relating President Barack Obama's stimulus package to alternative energy, according to Senior Elisabeth Morant, team captain.

"As Obama releases the details, we write files of information about the stimulus," Elisabeth explained. "We use the most updated information, especially on such a fast moving issue, because hopefully the other team won't prepare as well. Especially for a prestigious tournament like Harvard, we want the most recent updates."

Results from previous meets are as follows:

LANE TECH INVITATIONAL, January 9-10: **First Speaker**, Charlie Rafkin; **Sixth Speaker**, Jacob Rocenbacher; **Eighth Speaker**, Benny Wah.

DOWLING CATHOLIC PARADIGM, December 12-14: **Second Speaker**, Charlie Rafkin; **Seventh Speaker**, Isaac Stanley-Becker; **Fourteenth Speaker**, Joyce Harduvel.

U. of C. Model U.N. meet to spotlight individuals

By Leslie Sibener

Midway reporter

Representing Iran and New Zealand, 22 Model United Nations delegates will compete in their third conference, February 5-8 at the Palmer House downtown. The hometown meet follows two on the road, November 14-16 at William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia (reported last Midway), and December 11-14 at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

At Harvard, Best Delegate awards were won by Seniors Jaya Sah and Leah Sibener; Outstanding Delegate awards by Junior Jonah Breslau and Freshman Rosie Cuneo-Grant; and Commendations received by Senior Mark Wittles and Juniors Amelia Acosta, Sydney Small, Julia Solomon-Strauss, Marriisa Suchyta.

"THE U. OF C. CONFERENCE does not give out awards to single schools, but to individual competitors, making it an individual competition," said Faculty Sponsor Paul Horton, history teacher. "U. of C. is the only individual competition we attend, so we usually get a lot of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. It's a good conference for beginners to start off on because it's like training.

"This year is going to be different. We're going to have much stiffer competition. Two schools from the Harvard and William and Mary conferences are going to be at U. of C. that have never been there before: Oceanside from Long Island, New York, and Port Charlotte in Florida."

Less-than-ideal negotiating with delegates from other schools during caucuses hurt the team at the Harvard, though nine delegates out of 19 representing the United Kingdom won awards, Mr. Horton said.

"SOME PEOPLE have a hard time doing that with stubborn delegates from other teams," Mr. Horton explained. "Also, getting credited for what we do, like writing and solution making, and having what we do be more visible. There are various strategies to make yourself more visible.

"In the training at school, we are very against making contact with judges in order to make ourselves stand out. During caucuses we try to be near where the moderators are at the front, we try to speak as much as we can, and having other delegates yield their extra time in speeches to us so we can speak more focuses the attention to us."

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Photo by Rohini Tobaccowala

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"Space impacts a lot of things. In a sense, that issue of space not only effects the programs we can offer but also how diverse we can get."

—Math Teacher Paul Gunty, assistant to associate director

and co-coordinator of the recent ISACS evaluation of the Lab SchoolsA

Evaluators laud school's 'magic,' but also offer ideas for improvement

By Andrew Zheng

Midway reporter

Extensively praising numerous facets of the Lab Schools' programs, acknowledging its importance in its community and American education, an evaluation by a team of educators representing the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS), also offers numerous ideas for improvement.

The evaluators emphasized an inadequate internal communication system as a major issue. Inadequate communication across department lines, between the Middle and High schools, and even within the departments themselves, was cited as a serious concern.

THE VISITORS conducted their assessment of the Lab Schools October 26-29 as part of an accreditation process. They compared what they saw and what they heard in interviews with goals they had read in an extensive school self-evaluation.

ISACS reports are confidential, but high school papers have a long history of covering them with the help of faculty members who provide information.

"The magic of the Laboratory Schools captivated the team," the report

stated. "The students in particular are an incredibly diverse and socially sophisticated group. All constituencies cited great teaching as the number one strength of the Schools."

THE EVALUATORS also praised the role of the school in the community and the University and in the history of education as John Dewey's school.

But the visitors also expressed deep concern about needing to improve communication within the school.

"We have seldom seen a place," the report stated, "where so many people are doing great things without others knowing about it in any systematic way."

"The feeling of a number of adults at Lab is that lots of information is available, but adults must take the responsibility to read e-mails and stay informed."

"WHEN THE CLIMATE between administrators and faculty is charged, communication may be harder to achieve. Other obstacles to easy communication include the size of the Schools, which makes it difficult for faculty to come together regularly over the course of the year."

While the ISACS report commended the Lab Schools for the degree of autonomy it allows its teachers, the



Art by Lauline Gough

report also expressed concerns over "whether teacher autonomy has not interfered in the departments fostering a more optimal climate of collaboration and peer review."

"Throughout the school and the departments, the faculty prizes and cherishes its autonomy," the report stated. "While this latitude to select and teach texts independently of colleagues teaching at the same level affords teachers the opportunity to pick favorites, it can preclude the opportunity for valuable discussion and shared ideas."

"A value of teamwork, especially at the freshman and sophomore level, is the benefit of building on each others' strengths and testing new methods."

ANOTHER CONCERN common to nearly all departments was insufficient help and specialized attention for students with learning differences. The report commended the addition of Director of Student Services Kenneth James as a positive step.

"Estimates suggest that as many as 14 percent of the High School student body have been diagnosed with learning differences," the report stated. "Many faculty are increasingly ambivalent about what to do about the growing numbers of students with learning differences."

"Some question whether the best course of action is to proactively counsel those students to transfer to another more appropriate school."

THE REPORT also considered issues of class size and class time. The evaluators recommended that class

size in Visual Arts, Drama and World Languages be limited to allow more participation from each student, as well as more time for the teacher to interact with each student.

The report also voiced concerns that Math and English class periods are too short, recommending that the school "examine the feasibility of expanding the number of minutes that a class period meets in the Middle and High School divisions in order to afford teachers the time to enable students to do investigations, make discoveries, and test conjectures — a la John Dewey."

"Although teachers seem to choose texts and lessons that are often investigative in nature, the relatively short class periods (45 minutes) are often not conducive to doing discovery activities, formulating conjectures, and doing proofs."

THE REPORT also described problems with the Schools' areas of deteriorating infrastructure and insufficient classroom space and safety issues with fire exits and fire drills.

The report did, however, give a positive evaluation of the school's learning climate and general atmosphere, giving a consistently complimentary appraisal of the students and faculty throughout all parts of the evaluation.

It praised "committed, highly qualified faculty and staff members," but questioned why the Dewey-inspired hands-on learning process in the Lower School gives way to more traditional, primarily content-based study in the High School.

Senior wins 'Free Spirit' trip to nation's capital, scholarship

For the third time in five years, a Midway editor-in-chief has received the Al Neuharth Free Spirit Award from the Freedom Forum.

Senior Gabriel Bump is the latest U-High winner, following John Leggitino in 2005 and Phil Jacobson in 2007. John is now at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and Phil is attending Northwestern University in Evanston.

Given to not more than one boy and one girl in each state who "dare, deam and do," the award is named for the founder of USA Today, the Newseum and the Freedom Forum itself.

Gabriel will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and travel to Washington, D.C., to accept the award as part of a conference March 14-19 at the Newseum, an interactive museum devoted to the importance of a free press in a free society.

There the state winners will tour broadcasting and print media, meet media and government leaders and attend a black-tie dinner, where two National Winners will get \$10,000.

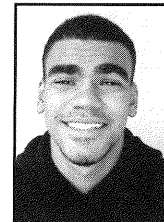
For his application, Gabriel submitted his high school transcript, several writing samples, two 500-word essays

and a recommendation from Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler.

"This is an unusual program," Mr. Brasler said, "because in addition to journalistic accomplishment it involves the candidate's evidence of being independent, creating his or her own opportunities and coloring outside the lines."

By phone from Washington, D.C., where he witnessed the inauguration of President Barack Obama (see front page), Gabriel said, "I guess it's a great honor to be part of the tradition of Lab Schools student to win this award, especially since it's been three in the past five years."

"Since the award is for free spirits, and I do a lot of work on urban issues, I thought that attracted the judges because it's not something you see in a lot of high school papers. Since we do live in a city with a lot of issue not only between the races but social classes too we are offered this opportunity to cover them more in-depth than a suburban high school paper usually could do."



Gabriel

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"We're really trying hard in the Journalism Department to get behind the school's drive to cut back spending. The Midway staff has reduced its Xeroxing considerably, we're conserving paper and any food or drink we have in the office either the teacher brings it in or parents or staff members provide it."

—Ruiqi Tang, senior, Midway business and advertising manager



Famed photo editor, a U-High grad of 1933, to speak here tomorrow

By Sydney Scarlata

Midway reporter

An internationally famed photo editor, journalist, author and 1933 U-High graduate, will tell his story to Photojournalism and Journalism student 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. tomorrow in Judd 126.

Other interested students and faculty members are invited.

MR. JOHN G. MORRIS, 93, went from U-High to the University of Chicago. He started his journalism career in the mailroom at Life Magazine, then worked for several prominent magazines and newspapers including Ladies' Home Journal, the Washington Post and the New York Times.

He served as the executive editor for the international agency, Magnum Photo.

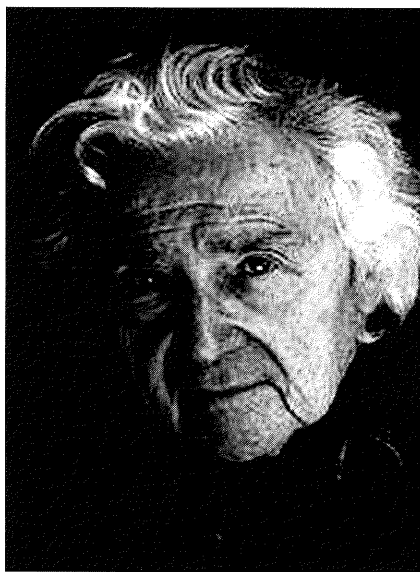
As a photo editor, Mr. Morris worked with photographers including Robert Capa, who photographed the treacherous D-Day landings during World War II, and George Rodger, a British photographer who took the first photographs of Bergen-Belson, a concentration camp in Germany during World War II.

E-mailing back and forth with Mr. Morris, Development Associate Kerry Tulson learned he was coming from his home in Paris to work in Regenstein Library on the John G. Morris Photo Collection. She invited him to U-High.

"**HIS EXPERIENCES**" as a photo editor are very well known" Ms. Tulson said. "He is one of the most famous photo editors, and covered many topics throughout history, such as D-Day. He was responsible for framing the news through photography."

Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts says she's excited for the opportunity.

"What I think would be most interesting to students is understanding how to be a photo editor," Ms. Ricketts said. "How to acquire the skill on what works and what doesn't when looking at a photograph."



JOHN G. MORRIS
Witness to history

School fires up initiative to cutback on spending

By Nathan Bishop

Editor-in-Chief

U-Highers won't notice a difference as the Lab Schools and the University of Chicago start cutting budget in wake of endowment losses, predicts Lab Schools Director David Magill.

In a letter to faculty and staff members January 5, Mr. Magill explained the Lab Schools' response to endowment losses and advised a reduction in "discretionary expenses." In an interview with the Midway, Mr. Magill said he has implemented cutback measures that will not affect students.

"**I THINK** the most obvious measures have already been decided," Mr. Magill said. "We are trying to cut down on our outside catering for adult events and reduce choices for students in catering. Those are things we can cut back in hard time and they might help us lose some weight."

"We are trying to reduce noneducational supplies, not books, but including cleaning materials and office supplies. We need to be more efficient with our paper products for two reasons: One, cutting back paper products would make us a little greener as a school and not sacrifice as many trees, but mainly because we produce a great deal of PDFs that can be filed electronically and don't need to be printed."

"We are trying to cut back \$197,000 and we told the University that we had a \$400,000 goal."

A **BUDGET HAS** two parts: revenue, how much you can raise and expenditures, how well you control costs and we have found ways to increase revenue. This increase comes as a result of actuals.

"We budget each year and we budget conservatively. If we budget for 1,740 students and when the school opens you have 1,750 students, suddenly you have \$200,000 dollars more."

"If these measures don't work or the economy gets worse we might try other measures, but we will always try to preserve our quality educational program and the people who implement it. We won't decrease available financial aid, but there is an increase in people who apply for aid, and my amount has not gone up."

LAB SCHOOLS Associate Director David Stafford also hopes budget cuts will not hurt students or staff.

"We're not telling people not to spend, just to spend on stuff they only really need for this school year," Mr. Stafford said. "We're not going to cutback in any areas that directly relate to the education of students."

"If you don't reduce expenses in manners such as that, the next step is to start looking at personnel, and we've done absolutely everything we can to avoid doing that. Nothing will be cut back for Senior Getaway or Junior Retreat, and for most student-run activities the students raise their own money. We are trying to minimize the impact on the whole organization."



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Program to offer U-High families tips on applying for college grants

By Sonya Dhinds

Midway reporter

Discussing the best way to apply for college grants during the poor economy, Mr. Jaime Gonzalez, assistant director at the University of Chicago Office of College Aid and U-High parent, will speak at the annual College Financial Night 7-9 p.m. tomorrow in Judd 126. Aimed at juniors, all U-Highers and parents are invited.

The night will ease the challenge for families who apply for college aid, according to College Counselors Patty Kovacs and Melissa Warehall.

"We like to hold one of these types of presentations every year at this time because the seniors are finishing their

Financial Aid applications, while the juniors are just beginning to learn about financial aid," Ms. Kovacs said. "Families can ask questions such as, 'What is financial aid?' 'How does it help me?' 'Where do I get an application?' After the presentation is over, all questions will be answered."

The presentation will benefit families in several ways, Ms. Warehall said.

"The process of filling out the paperwork is long, tedious, and complex," she explained. Mr. Gonzalez will answer any questions that the students and parents may have. Colleges will award students grants if they feel the student is qualified. Usually their family income is not enough to pay the tuition."

Last year's Midway gets top rating

"Wow, wow and wow."

With a series of praiseworthy observations, that one for creative advertising, National Scholastic Press Association judge Linda Barrington awarded last year's Midway the highest rating, All American.

To qualify for the honor papers first had to earn a First Class rating based on scorebook points, then receive at least four of five possible Marks of Distinction for special excellence and creativity in Coverage and Content; Writing and Editing; Photography, Art and Graphics; Layout and Design; and Leadership. The Midway did not get a Mark in design because it does not stick with modular design—stories always in rectangles. "That's what makes us

who we are; we're not a cookie-cutter paper," said one of this year's editors-in-chief, Senior Gabriel Bump.

Among the judge's other comments were the following:

Content is particularly compelling because of excellent reporting; editorials and opinion pieces are well-researched, developed and articulate; highest score for adherence to professional and ethical standards; even though I have never been in this school, I feel as though I understand the culture and climate of this campus family, and I love it; everyone connected with the writing process gets a gold star for editing and proofing; photofeatures are exceptional in content; not many staffs have artists willing to do so much and do it so well.

Last year's editors-in-chief were Cydney Weiner, David McAlpine, Dana Alfassa, Mona Dasgupta, Robin Shapiro and Amanda Pappas.

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

Bargaining issues elude students

Teacher: one that teaches; especially: one whose occupation is to instruct.

Servant: one that performs duties about the person or home of a master or personal employer.

During the nearly long struggle between the Lab Schools faculty and the University to reach a collective bargaining agreement, U-Highers seemed either oblivious to, or uniformed about, the issues.

SOME STUDENTS did gripe about some teachers, as part of union job actions, refusing to advise students clubs and offer help after school hours as usual. Some made snide comments about how insensitive their teachers were being in not providing everything students had come to assume they would provide. A few students even discussed the possibility of a student protest against the teachers' protest.

It's surprising that in a school filled with such a passionate and thoughtful student body the message of the bargaining was missed.

Some issues at this school are bigger than the student body, bigger than student clubs and homework help before and after school.

IF THE Lab Schools boasts about having a community oriented-learning environment, then don't teachers deserve a voice outside of the classroom? Students are allotted opportunities to express dissatisfaction, so it seems only right that teachers be offered the same.

When union members finally accepted an agreement last month, some of them accepted it reluctant-



Art by Becky Fox

ly. In the December 9 issue of the Midway, longtime Physics Teacher David Derbes said that the new contract's numbers were "not good enough." He wasn't alone in that sentiment.

With the roles U-Highers played in this year's Presidential election, it seems contradictory that the students would take a narrow, self-focused, uninformed stance on a political issue within the school.

Plain and simple: There is a difference between teachers and servants, between people meant to aid in the learning experience and people whose duties are to cater to the student body.

Even if what the union is and the bargaining process and numbers are still confusing to some students, the teachers' right to demand higher pay shouldn't be.

OPINION ROHINI TOBACOWALA

International tragedy hits close to home

"OUR MESSAGE to the terrorists...screw you!"

So said an article written by the editors in the December issue of Time Out Mumbai magazine about the November 26 Mumbai, India attacks.

FOR THREE DAYS, 10 Pakistani men used automatic weapons and grenades in 10 attacks across Mumbai, the financial capital in western India, targeting westerners and Indians. Around 170 people were killed and at least 308 were injured.

The Pakistanis attacked Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (the biggest train station in Mumbai), Oberoi Trident Hotel, Taj Mahal Palace and Tower, Leopold Café, Cama Hospital, Narmian House, Metro Cinema, a land behind the Times of India Building near St. Xavier's College, including an explosion at Mazagoan docks in Mumbai's port area and a taxi blast at Vile Parle.

Before November 26, there were random attacks by Muslims from Bangladesh and Pakistan, leaving bombs in the Air India Building, in crowded bazaars or in trains. During my visit to Mumbai, I witnessed a suspected bomb blast on a car ride through a busy street. Instead of leaving a bomb and running away, the gunmen stayed and risked their lives to have revenge, believing Hindus hurt Muslims in Kashmir and other areas of India.

I'VE SEEN several of the places that were attacked during visits to my family in Mumbai. My parents, both Mumbai natives, had their wedding reception at the Taj Mahal Palace and Tower. My grandfather lives right next door to the Oberoi Trident Hotel and had a business meeting in the building just two hours before the first explosion.

Learning about the attacks through a frantic phone call from my parents' friend in California, my first thought was "where is grandpa?" We tried calling him, but couldn't get through the line. Turning on the news, we saw that the Oberoi had been a target. We had the worst feeling in our stomachs. What if?

Finally we found out he was safe, but were still worried seeing how the situation was not handled by the Indian government. We watched the Taj Palace lit up with fire. Even as an Indo-American, I had tears in

my eyes. While I never grew up there, there is still large part of me that feels attached to Mumbai. It's my second home.

INDIA FELT like it was their September 11. The world, especially Americans, felt something hit home, being reminded of that day.

It seems the message was simple: Westerners must stay away from a prosperous superpower and an ancient land of culture and architecture.

But the Indian people have said recently, this is "my Mumbai, my pride," distributing pins of this saying across the city. They have shown resilience to the attacks in an unbelievably short amount of time, according to my dad who visited earlier this month.

EVEN THOUGH Indians are constantly reminded of how the gunmen held hostages and blew up building they thought were safe, they've had to adjust to many changes. At the Taj Mahal Palace and Tower, when he arrived in his car, security personnel opened the front and back of the car to look at the engine and the trunk. They took a mirror and put it under the car to see if there was a bomb.

Shopping centers are filled with security checks before you can enter. And even though it's as difficult to get into a hotel or shopping center, as it is an airport, it hasn't stopped people from going. It's just a cost of how one has to live in today's world.

India has not allowed a terrorist to affect their minds and they are not letting these events make them fearful of dying. Within 30 days, places upon attack were crowded with Indians. It took much longer than that for the U.S. to even feel slightly less fearful after September 11.

I feel like India's approach stands as an example of how America and the rest of the world should be in the future. No matter what, the Indians are determined to go on with their lives and not stop them because of terrorism. I believe we should respond to future attacks in the same way and follow the same famous line: "Our message to the terrorists...screw you!"

erine Holt, Charles Jiang, Spencer Lee, Joanna Orszulak, Nick Phalen, Isadora Ruyter-Harcourt, Sydney Scarlata, Leslie Siben-er, Isaac Stanley-Becker, Bill Steuben, Rachel Sylora, Benny Wah, Tom Wile, Andrew Zheng.

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Editorial and business
Mr. Wayne Brasler

SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Denise Akuamoah

Who would be your ideal Valentine's Day date and what would you do on your date?



Alex

ALEX ORTEL, freshman: I would say Jessica Alba would be my ideal Valentine's Day date. First we would go out for a night on the town in San Francisco and then we would rent out a movie theater and watch "The Notebook."



Tim

TIM THOMAS, sophomore: I would pick Tina Fey because she is funny enough to keep me entertained the entire night. We would go to a nice place to dinner in New York and then hang out with all of her "Saturday Night Live" friends. That'd be the funniest and best way to spend a Valentine's Day.



Lauren

LAUREN UCHIMA, junior: My ideal Valentine's Day date would have to be Chace Crawford from "Gossip Girl." We would go out around Times Square in New York and have dinner at a cute New York café and just talk.



Lauline

LAULINE GOUGH, senior: My ideal Valentine would be Joe Boisvert. Even though we aren't dating currently, he would make my Valentine's Day special since we have a long history together. We would go out to dinner and eat fondue by candlelight and then take a carriage ride downtown.



Rohini

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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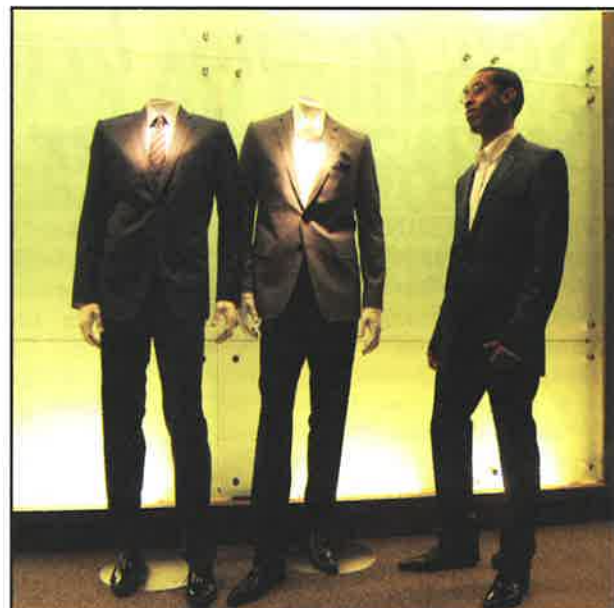
FASHION ROHINI TOBACOWALA



A SHORT hemmed, 1960's style BCBG brand dress accents Freshman Victoria Bills's slim waist.



IN DOLCE and Gabbana's charcoal suit, Junior J.R. Mahung pairs the solid color with black shoes.



CONSIDERING NEW colors, J.R. contemplates the jackets on two Nordstrom Manniquins.

Photos by Rachel Turner

Classic silhouettes create latest fashion excitement

INSPIRED BY classic European fashion, high-cut empire waist dresses matched with modern sparkly jewelry and pee-toe heels are bringing hip but classy style events such as the upcoming Formal Dance.



Rohini

Similarly, a silk or leather belt worn just below the bust can add an extra pop on a formal dress.

U-Highers can choose from a variety of lengths from the upper thigh to below the knee, according to Nordstrom Special Occasion Salesperson Angie.

With a modern flair, these versatile dresses and skirts focus on the waist, where the waistline is raised above the natural waistline. The empire waist dress accentuates slender or petite figures and camouflages a bottom-heavy figure or thick waist, according to Seventeen and Teen Vogue magazines.

"The Special Occasions Department is a nice place for students to come and pick out anything," Ms. Angie said. "It really depends on the age because the gap between dresses for freshmen and those for seniors are very different. But I think for this season, empire waist dresses are popular for all ages. We have different types. Some are tight right below the bust while others just go up to mid tummy. We also have a lot of silk dresses from BCBG and Nicole Miller, which tend to be very popular with teenagers."

Peep-toe and t-strap high heels add classiness to formal dresses, according to Manager of Salon Shoes Melissa Merritt.

"Peep toe heels are a must with dresses," Ms. Merritt said. "T-straps also offer sophistication to a dress. Everything sparkly and jewels work well with a simple black dress. Black shoes are obviously still in and they can go with more colorful patterns. Also, jewel tones

include more silver than gold. Popular brands in my section include Jimmy Choo, which can be a few hundred dollars. But if someone is looking not to spend that much, we also have Brass Plum shoes and Gint shoes, with more modest prices, that match anything because they come in so many different colors."

Fashion for boys include simple collar shirts and grey and black jackets by top designers like Dolce and Gabbana and Ermenegildo Zegna.

White is the safest color for man's formal shirt. Narrow-faced boys can choose collars that are wider to help broaden their faces while boys with wider faces should choose narrow collars, lengthening their faces.

A solid color suit in black, grey or navy blue and single-breasted make U-Highers look sleeker.

For shoes, try to match your belt color. Black is a safe color but brown or red tones can also look stylish and add suaveness to your final outfit.

COOKING WITH NICK CHASKIN

Oooooh, la la! It's authentically rich French onion soup

COOKING TODAY is all about one theme: seasonality. So, as we grow tired of perpetual cold, biting winds and short days, a rich and warming bowl of French onion soup can be the ultimate Winter dish.

To start you will need:

- 3 large yellow onions (I prefer Spanish)
- 2 large yellow "sweet onions"
- 3 Tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 quart beef stock



Nick

wine works in a pinch.

Start by chopping your onions. Place your onion with the roots facing from you, then with your favorite chef's knife cut from the roots to the opposite end, just through the skin of your onion. This allows you to fit the blade of your knife under the skin and simply peel it off for easy removal.

Remove the non-root end before cutting the onion in half, placing the onions halves on there flat side, make a second cut, perpendicular to your first, splitting the rings into quarters, while keeping the roots of your onion intact.

Making as few cuts to the root end of the onion as possible will minimize your tears as you take the onions apart. Finally cut your onions into half rings about 1/8th of an inch thick.

Finish your *mise en place* by mincing your garlic and measuring out the rest of your ingredients.

- 1 quart water
- Kosher salt
- 1/4-1/3 cup of Cognac or dry white wine
- Freshly ground black pepper
- Gruyere cheese, thinly sliced
- 1 loaf French bread

Cognac, a fortified brandy, comes from the Cognac region in France. It gives a subtle depth of flavor which wine can't deliver. However, a good and dry white



Photo by Hanna Redleaf

AN OVEN broiler helps create a delicious cheese crust, covering a crock full of thick and steaming French onion soup.

Melt the butter in a large pot or Dutch oven before adding your onions and stir in a heavy pinch of salt. Then, step back – that's right, walk away. Go make your self a lovely, refreshing beverage and enjoy a nice book.

Return to stir your onions after five minutes then go back to your lovely beverage and book. After another five minutes (or when you're finished with your beverage) the onions should be a nice brown color. Add the garlic and sauté for two minutes.

Next, add your Cognac, being careful of steam. Adding the Cognac at this point will ensure all the alcohol cooks out, and keep your parents from screaming that the Midway is encouraging drinking.

Add your broth and water and make another lovely beverage. Allow your soup to simmer for at least 30 minutes before adjusting your seasoning.

To serve, slice your bread into rounds half-an-inch thick. Toast the slices and line the bottoms of your bowls with them. Pour the soup over the croutons and cover with a layer of the sliced Gruyere cheese.

Place under your broiler until the cheese is golden brown and delicious.

THEOREM OF THE MONTH RAFI KHAN

Do you know what the heck all this means?

FROM EGYPT to Babylon, China to Greece. Wherever mathematics was studied in ancient times, one fact was known about the right triangle: the sum of the squares of the sides equal the square of the hypotenuse.

Or, as it is commonly known to mankind, the Pythagorean Theorem, $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

Over 2000 years later, after giving birth to the Distance Formula and half the trigonometric identities, this truth rests in the back of every math student's mind during class, in Algebra I or A.P. Calculus. Following Euclid's original proof in his "Elements" ca. 300 B.C.E. there are now hundreds of proofs published, 367 of them in "The Pythagorean Proposition" by Profesor Elisha Scott Loomis. It seems that the Pythagorean Theorem is as interesting to professional mathematicians as it is to U-Highers.

In fact, one of these mathematicians is Math Teacher Joe Scroll. His interest, however, is not in reproving the theorem but in its extensive history.

"The Pythagorean Theorem represents how static and unchanging math is," Mr. Scroll said. "A few thousand years ago, the Egyptians used to take a rope that was 12 units long and stretch it around stakes that were four units apart to create the right angles needed for their pyramids, the same principle a student might use for deriving the equation of a circle. And to think that it was part of a Greek cult led by Pythagoras where people literally got killed for talking about their discoveries to the wrong people is fascinating."

"Those are the kinds of things that speak to me the most about the theorem. Then there are more recent extensions, like Fermat's Last Theorem, that prove its versatility. Every great mathematical thinker uses this at one time or another."

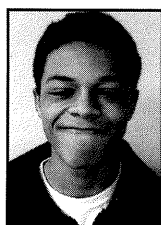


Rafi

New drama brings out Swayze's inner 'Beast'

AMID INTERNATIONAL crime rings and intense personal conflict, FBI agent Charles Barker faces a unique challenge in A&E's new drama "The Beast."

Despite a longstanding reputation as a loner, Agent Barker, played by veteran actor Patrick Swayze, must mentor a cocky young agent named Ellis Dove. As Ellis, played



Sam

by newcomer Travis Fimmel, learns the finer points of interrogation and negotiation, he is subjected to the often harsh treatment from his teacher.

Airing Thursdays at 9 p.m., "The Beast"

premiered January 15.

Although doomed – by similar plots – to dwell in the formidable shadow of Fox's counterterrorism

thriller "24," "The Beast" offers an entertaining mix of action and interpersonal drama.

An unorthodox yet methodical agent, Charles' stunts include firing a shoulder mount rocket propelled grenade out of an office building and shooting Agent Ellis (in the vest) at a standoff to "teach him a lesson."

Cold and hard nosed, Swayze and Fimmel's acting usually delivers what one expects from a crime show.

Swayze's current struggle with pancreatic cancer makes his strong performances pleasantly surprising. Impressively, Fimmel manages the role of an inexperienced sidekick without sacrificing dignity.

His versatility extends to more personal scenes, often involving a love interest (Rose Lawrence, played by Lindsay Pulsipher) whom he curi-



CONFLICTING PERSONALITIES of rookie Ellis Dove (Travis Fimmel) and agent Charles Barker (Patrick Swayze) fuel just one of several complicated relationships winning a big following for A & E's 'The Beast'.

ously seems to encounter at every conceivable place.

While the unlikely pairing tackle a new challenge every week, "The Beast" escapes monotony by treating the overarching problem of evil human nature. As Agent Barker

says to Ellis, The Beast (of "Lord of the Flies" fame) motivates the misdeeds he is trying to punish. Although this remains more of an undertone most of the time, it serves to create a fairly original and satisfying program.

FILM JULIE CARLSON

Golden Globe underdog film showcases 'Millionaire' acting

BETWEEN A backwards-aging Brad Pitt, a bickering reunion of the "Titanic" couple and a blockbuster Batman hit, "Slumdog Millionaire" has somewhat unexpectedly risen to the top of many Academy Award-watchers' radars.

Since its four Golden Globes wins (including Best Motion Picture - Drama), the film seems especially primed to claim Oscar gold February 22 and with good reason.

The movie tells the story of 18 year-old Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), a contestant on the Indian version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" whose integrity is called into question while he's winning big. The unique tale develops through flashbacks to Jamal's impoverished, often violent youth with his brother Salim (Madhur Mittal) and their friend Latika (Freida Pinto). When the brothers become separated from Latika, Jamal's subsequent search for

her motivates nearly all of his decisions.

Although Jamal and Salim's actions are sometimes reprehensible, screenwriter Simon Beaufoy created such well developed characters that their exploits become understandable and even endearing.

This can partially be credited to the actors portraying the characters' youngest incarnations, who successfully employ their highly expressive faces to their full potential.

Recognition should also go to director Danny Boyle, who deftly uses quick cuts that compliment the bass-heavy soundtrack to immerse viewers into a scene. When Jamal feels terrified, the same terror is created within moviegoers.

Even when the film falls into dark moments (as it often does), it also maintains beauty; colorful saris and fruits frequently contrast bleak stretches dirt and dust, for example. These small touches, paired with the script's frequent splashes of humor, saves the film from getting bogged



Julie



THOUGH NOVICE actors, Jamal Malik (Dev Patel) and Latika (Freida Pinto) both have won film critics' praise for their work in "Slumdog Millionaire." The film has been an Oscar frontrunner.

down in depressing events.

Without notable Hollywood actors or fancy special effects, "Slumdog Millionaire" delivers an astounding story of the pitfalls of greed and the power of love that deserves whichever Oscars it has coming.

TECHNOLOGY SAM FRAMPTON

Research papers? Worry no longer

RESEARCHING TO WRITE a recent report on Mathematician David Blackwell for my discrete math class, I sat at the computer, Googling endless keywords to no avail.

Growing tired of the generic information offered by internet sources, I turned to Google's often unused book search feature. A few minutes later, I found an obscure, out of print collection of papers with exactly what I was looking for.

AFTER KICK-STARTING the mass digitization of libraries four years ago, Google launched its book search feature in 2006, intending to index the contents of five libraries, including those of Harvard and Columbia universities.



Sam

This and similar projects operate with powerful, expensive scanners that can index a volume in under an hour. The technology involved includes optical character recognition software, which allows users to search within a book's contents.

While Google provides the most extensive selection of books in nearly any area of interest, the Open Content Alliance (OCA) – launched in 2005 – has compiled a substantial collection of works in the public domain.

UNLIKE GOOGLE, which keeps much of its developments secret, the OCA website (www.opencontentalliance.org) details its archiving process and mission and keeps a blog of recent developments. All of its collections are included in the larger Internet Archive (www.archive.org), which in addition to texts encompasses completely legal audio, video and software.

Meeting with the influx of digitized libraries, e book reader technology could prove invaluable in the near future.

AT PRESENT, the most successful reader, Amazon's Kindle, does not support the PDF format popular among archived books. Although others such as the Sony Reader support the format, their operating systems make downloading from Google difficult.

Besides its practical uses, mass digitization hopefully signals a trend of growing richness in internet-based information. Something that could save me on many research papers to come.

MUSIC DENISE AKUAMOAH

Get ready to 'Ride' with Ciara's alter ego

OH YEAH, she's a "Go Girl."

Gracing the Hip Hop and R&B world with her smooth but faint breathy vocals, Grammy Award winning singer Ciara presents a more developed and varied vocal range to complement her infamous crunk sound in her junior album, "Fantasy Ride" (LaFace). The album is being released today as an eclectic three-disc record, with five stylistically similar songs per disc.



Denise

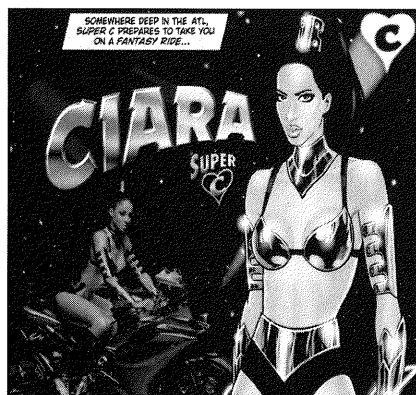
The first disc, "Groove City," features slow jams similar to "Promise." "Crunktown" includes crunk-influenced tracks reminiscent of her single "That's Right" and the third disc, "Kingdom of Dance," of- fes up-tempo house and freestyle

cuts similar to "I Proceed".

Throughout the album, specifically in "Kingdom of Dance," the singer/dancer/songwriter reveals her sensual futuristic superhero-esque alter ego "Super C," based on the robotic character she portrays in the "Go Girl" music video.

Bursting onto the scene in 2004, Ciara's debut single, "Goodies" featuring Petey Pablo topped the Billboard 100 while her second and third singles "1,2 Step" featuring Missy Elliot and "Oh" featuring Ludacris both peaked at number 2 on the Billboard Hot 100.

In the "Crunktown" song "Work," Super C emerges in a club setting and encourages everyone on the dance floor to "work" their bodies to the "rhythm of the beat" and "get buck" as she provides the energy to her figurative crunk sound filled with heavy bass and drums.



Stylistic variety and improved vocals set "Fantasy Ride" apart from Ciara's previous immature albums though maybe not enough to reach the top spot on the charts. But luckily for Ciara, her amazing dance moves and high energy during performances may give this uniquely arranged album the push that it needs to succeed.

♥ Love your hair ♥

(with a little help)

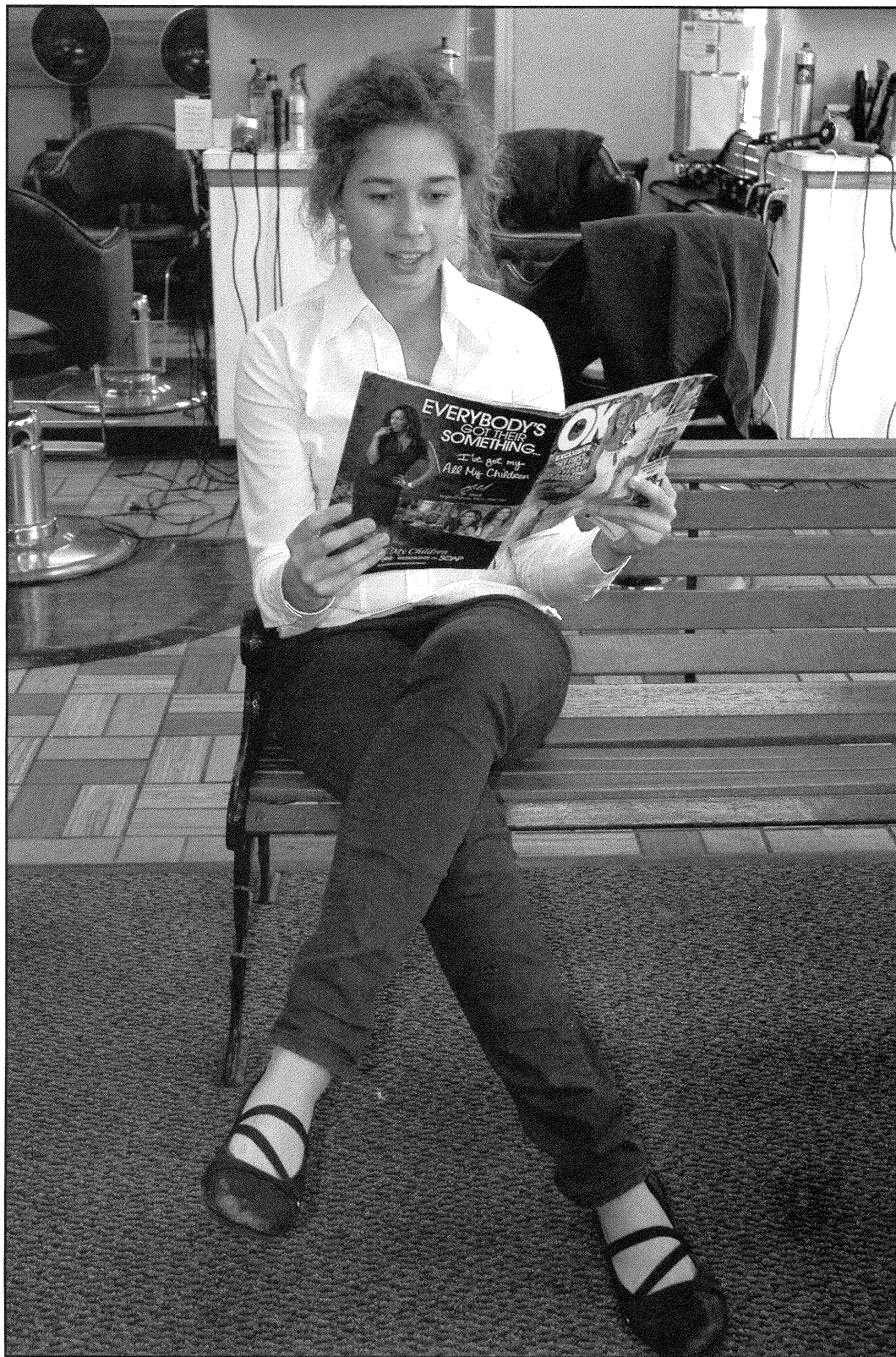


Photo by Rohini Tobaccowala

AFTER THE stylists at Hair Design International work their magic, Kiara Kennedy finds her new hair style falls right in step with what celebrities in the magazines are wearing. You can look like a star, too, with one visit to HAIR DESIGN INTERNATIONAL!

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"Every member of the swim team was involved and an integral part of the whole. I hope they feel I captured a bit of their spirit and did them justice."
—Junior Loren Kole

From freestyle to friendships

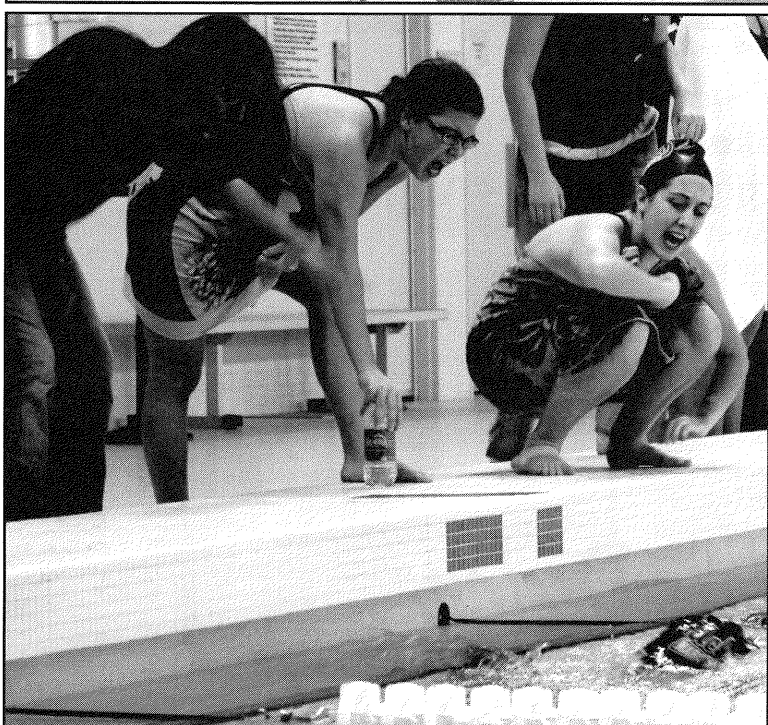


ONCE SHE noticed the camaraderie of the U-High girls' swim team, Junior Loren Kole felt compelled to follow the 18 members through the season, chronicling the experience along the way.

REACTING TO her score being posted (above), Kaia Tammen displayed feelings that intrigued Loren. "She had dropped time and was almost in tears, she was so proud," Loren said. "The team reacted similarly; her sense of achievement was important to them."

AS SHE watches a 20-lap, 500-meter freestyle competition, Isabella Prenta focuses intently on her team mates' movements. "She was holding the numbers used to count laps for swimmers in the 500," Loren explained. "And she's biting her lip, anxious for the team to do well."

ALTHOUGH THEIR expressive screaming faces may appear angry, Varsha Raghavan, Caroline Bank and Simone Baggetto were actually cheering on a fellow team mate in a display characteristic of the Swim Team mentality. "They were encouraging her to turn quickly and continue to push forward," Loren elaborated. "Every member of the team cheers for the swimmers competing, often gesturing wildly and whistling to be as loud and enthusiastic as possible. The victories of one girl were celebrated by all and everyone felt the impact of a defeat. Their energy and emotion were infectious; it was truly a joy to photograph the team."



AT THE END of the Senior Swim Meet, Junior Varsity Coach Marty Billingsley, was subject to a celebratory dunking headed by Caroline Bank. "She was pushed by the entire team and Head Coach Mike Cunningham, who fell victim to this tradition only minutes before," Loren said. "Caroline was then pulled into the water along with the coach."



AFTER A new round of events were posted on the pool wall, Aimee Lucido contemplated the upcoming ones she'd swim. "As one of the team captains, she showed enormous leadership throughout the season and always had tremendous focus," Loren said. "I also love the slight sense of nerves as she bites her nails."



INSPIRED BY Lida Wu's frustration while waiting for her unposted times, Loren quickly took a picture. "She had a great exasperated look," Loren said. "So I snapped a photo and luckily it turned out well."

Return of a series

Last year's Midway photofeatures exhibiting the work of the paper's photographers in their Photojournalism class proved so popular the series is returning this year. For this first page the spotlight falls on Junior Loren Kole, one of the paper's executive photographers. The Midway's photography adviser, and the Photojournalism teacher, is Ms. Liese Ricketts.

"I really believe that the best thing to do is bring kids of all different backgrounds, persuasions, whatever and to build a community that is devoted to intellectual growth."

—Ms. Susan Shapiro, history teacher



Students, teacher find governor scandal outrageous

■ They see a fine future for him behind bars

By Adrian Aldana
Midway reporter

Questioning Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich's sanity, students and teachers remain appalled at his continued defiance of the charges set against him.

U.S. Attorney General Patrick Fitzgerald made public December 9 corruption charges against Mr. Blagojevich, after the governor was arrested at his Ravenswood home.

THROUGH WIRETAPS in his home and office, the federal investigators uncovered attempts to gain campaign funds from Children's Memorial Hospital and the Horse racing industry.

Allegedly withholding \$8 million from the hospital for \$50,000 and pushing legislation beneficial for the horse racing industry in exchange for \$100,000, Mr. Blagojevich also attempted to sell President Obama's vacant Senate seat to the highest bidder.

Mr. Fitzgerald additionally disclosed the Governor's reaction to Chicago Tribune editors critical of

his administration. Attempting to comply the newspaper into firing them, Mr. Blagojevich promised to provide state help when selling Wrigley Field.

THE ILLINOIS House impeached the Governor January 14 in a 114-1 vote, impeaching an Illinois governor for the first time following a state history of governor corruption.

Six governors faced accusations either during their administrations or after.

Otto Kerner, Jr., Daniel Walker and George Ryan all served time in prison.

Proceeding House Impeachment, trial with the Illinois Senate for conviction, having begun yesterday, is expected to end February 4. Despite the allegations, Mr. Blagojevich has stated to "fight this thing."

"**I THINK IT'S** ridiculous," said Freshman Joshua Koenig. "Obviously what he did was wrong. He knew he was being wiretapped. He knew he was doing something illegal."

"To know you're doing something wrong and still do it doesn't make much sense."

"The people of this state made a mistake in electing him," said Sophomore Joe Philipson. "The man is pretty seriously deluded."

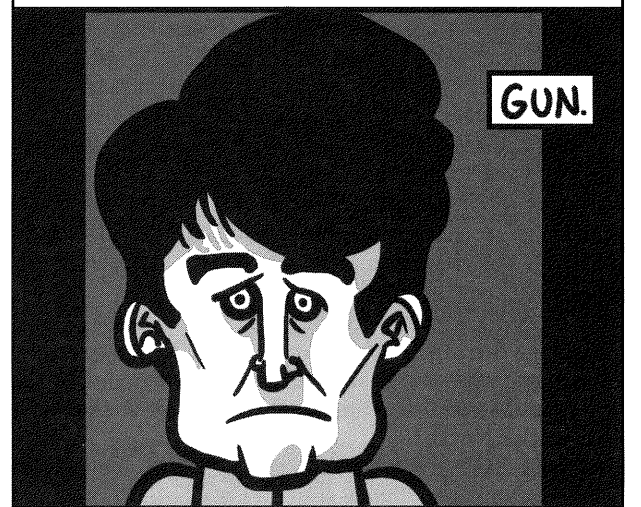
"I'm not sure he is sure of the severity of what he was getting into. If he did, he wouldn't have done it."

EVEN UNDER the scandal, Mr. Blagojevich continued to act as governor, having appointed manager/CEO of Burris & Lebed Consulting, LLC, Roland Burris to fill the empty U.S. senate seat.

A member of the Democratic Party and former Attorney General of Illinois from 1991 to 1995, Mr. Burris began his career as an attorney in 1963.

"Blagojevich is still governor," Math Teacher Joseph Scroll said. "If he wants to seat someone to the senate, he can. For people to try to say he can't, well, he can."

OLD GOVERNOR BLAGOJEVICH
THOUGHT HE'D SELL BARACK'S SEAT & BE RICH.
BUT FOR THIS MORAL BREACH
HE WILL NOW BE IMPEACHED.
STILL, HE'S ONE HANDSOME SON OF A...



Art by Eric Cochrane

"**THERE'S NOTHING** in the law that says he can't. Roland Burris has every right to have the Senate seat."

Whether Mr. Burris can clear himself of this scandal is up to him, according to History Teacher Susan Shapiro.

"How effective can he be under the scandalous cloud," Ms. Shapiro said. "That depends on Burris."

"A wise, young senator listens carefully and thinks clearly before important issues."

"I don't think young senators make waves."

“ Blagovevich is still governor. If he wants to seat someone to the senate, he can. There's nothing in the law that says he can't. ”

—Mr. Joe Scroll
math teacher

Gay high school proposal gets mixed reactions here

By Isaac Stanley Becker
Midway reporter

A separate but equal high school for gay students in Chicago would offer either protection or further discrimination and estrangement, students and teachers interviewed by the Midway believe.

Last year, the heads of the Little Village Lawndale High School for Social Justice, backed by Chicago Public School Officials, including then-CEO Arne Duncan, proposed establishing a gay-friendly high school.

LAST OCTOBER, Mr. Duncan met with ministers including Wilfredo De Jesus, a prominent evangelical minister in Chicago, who criticized the proposal.

The meeting led to nationwide opposition and questions concerning the efficacy of a "gay-friendly" high school, tentatively called The School for Social Justice Pride Campus. Supported by Mayor Richard Daley until last November, school advocates have now asked the Chicago Board of Education to postpone the vote on the gay high school. Resistance also includes the lack of available public funds.

"The idea behind the school is to protect gay identified teens subject to really awful bullying and discrimination," said Senior Rebecca Marks, copresident of the Queer Straight Alliance. "The student body would be primarily queer-identified, which would really provide a safe haven for such students."

"**SO THIS** would be a place where you can walk through the halls and not be called a 'fag,' or words exponentially worse."

"It's sad that safety has to be artificial, but that's worth it to make sure all people feel safe and comfortable."

And that's sad to me that people can't just feel safe being who they are, that that kind of environment would need to be created.

"What I think is really great about the debates surrounding such schools is that they have raised awareness about the sort of discrimination that queer teens in high school really do face."

SENIOR MAX Budovitch believes a gay high school would offer a flawed solution to an important problem.

"When you get to the root of the issue, an all gay school really just estranges gays more," Max said. "Making a high school that labels someone as gay in one respect acknowledges that they are a legitimate group."

"Yet I don't think it really helps to solve the root cause of the issue, which is understanding the grievances and issues of gays."

"In the short term, of course it's solving for harassment. But when the gays who have been going to such schools go out into the wider community, there would be this huge gap between their community and the wider one."

UNSURE ABOUT the long-term success of a "gay-friendly" high school, History Teacher Susan Shapiro believes the first step toward protecting homosexuals should be to make all intolerance unacceptable.

"I don't believe separate but equal solves anything," she said. "I believe that while it's an appealing idea to bring a group of kids together who are experiencing similar problems, I don't think that in the long run it's particularly healthy for the kids themselves. They have to learn how to live in full diversity."

"So in recognizing that we want to have fully diverse communities, it's a matter of what you do when people behave prejudicially."

Woodshedding at Joan's



Photo by Kendall Gordon

WORKING OUT some funky beats on the tubs, Yael Litwin enjoys her learning experience at JOAN'S STUDIO.

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"It is interesting to see all the history we have here in Chicago. It is hard to believe that our city was once so racially segregated. It was exciting to hear firsthand how Martin Luther King became who we know him to be."

—Tom Stanley-Becker, senior

Looking back over history he lived

(continued from page 4)

Kenwood. The depression began to strike Chicago very hard during the 30s. There was a forum called the Washington Park Forum, headed by radicals Claude Lightfoot and Ishmael Flory. They would have regular meetings in the evenings.

"In the white community, it was called Bug House Square. People like," he paused trying to remember who, "went to agitate about how the country was going. There were people in Bug House Square like Studs Terkel and Leon Despres. The Washington Park Forum excited us young people since these people seemed to be eloquent and well informed.

"**WHEN PEOPLE** would get evicted we children would go across the street and listen to these older people. People would get evicted because they could not pay their rent and Claude and Ishmael would say let's put them back in. We kids would help them put them back in. That was thrilling."

Coming to Virginia for Army training before going overseas during World War II, Mr. Black expressed his anger when he saw racism completely out in the open and lawful in the South in a way that it was not in the North.

"I was drafted into the Army in 1943. To get my basic training, we were sent to Fort Lee, Virginia. I had never been South in an unprotected way before. It was a dramatic difference that made me very angry. I am in a department store with my army uniform and any white person could come and get in front of me. I was supposed to be back at camp at a certain time. This delayed my return to camp. That is just one example of many.

"**THOSE OF US** in the camp would hardly ever go into the cities of the South because we could not make the adjustment very easily. The Southern draftees knew how to behave. We learned that there was a behavioral difference between the young draftees from the North and the South. Many volunteered to get away from the restrictions of the South. I learned what real race prejudice -- outright -- was like.

"My commanding officer was a Southern white who had received a lower score on the Army General Classification Test than I had," he continued as he placed his hands on the top of his head.

"We had gone from Normandy up to Belgium. We liberated Buchenwald death camp. I had never seen human beings systemically murdered -- order without skills. They were not useful. I was so angry I said to myself 'kill all the Germans' and started crying. I could not believe what I saw. When I returned, I had made a decision after the war and seeing Buchenwald that the rest of my life would be spent trying to make this a better world."

"I was asked if I would organize the Chicago contingent of the March on Washington, and so I agreed. I was not going to reject Dr. King and Mr. Randolph."
—Mr. Timuel Black

COMING BACK to Chicago after the war, Mr. Black became even more of a fervent activist for human rights.

"The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) began before World War II but after that it was scattered across the entire country but continued its work and began to reorganize. I had been active in CORE before.

"When I came back, I was active in organizing unions and other things. Mr. [A. Philip] Randolph stepped into the leadership because his union, the Brotherhood of the Sleeping Car Porters, had been discriminated against. We organized the Negro American Labor Council, which had its first national meeting in Detroit in 1960, to support Mr. Randolph and others.

"**AT THIS TIME**, Bayard Rustin had created a link between the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and

the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. At this time, E.D. Nixon who was a Pullman Porter in Montgomery started the Montgomery Bus Boycott. In December 1953, E.D. Nixon realized that this was something that was bigger than he was.

"He went to all the black ministers in Montgomery asking if they would take over the leadership. They all said no. Then, this young man who had just come to the 16th Street Baptist Church, Dr. Martin Luther King, said yes," Mr. Black recalled, scratching his head.

"In 1941, Mr. Randolph had threatened the March on Washington, dramatizing the need for integration," he said as he moved his arm towards the door.

"**IN JANUARY** of 1963, at our National Board Meeting, Mr. Randolph said I will call a March on Washington," Mr. Black said in a deep voice smiling grandly.

"Wow, he is gonna do that. We did not understand the cultural relationship between Dr. King and Mr. Randolph. In April or May of 1963, Dr. King was asked to come to Birmingham to break up segregation in work and everything and Dr. King agreed.

"And those of us who had an affinity with Dr. King, which I had developed in 1955, went South to promote it. After Birmingham, Mr. Randolph convinced Dr. King that he should take charge of the March on Washington.

"**I WAS ASKED** if I would organize the Chicago contingent of the March on Washington and so I agreed. I was not going to reject Dr. King and Mr. Randolph," Mr. Black smiled and chuckled more.

"We began to organize. Because of the new modern means of communication, we did not have much trouble getting people to the March on Washington.

"That is when Mr. Randolph passed the baton to Dr. King. After reading his prepared speeches, Dr. King's emotions came out and he delivered the 'I Have a Dream' Speech."

Boost Your Mood At Harper Foods

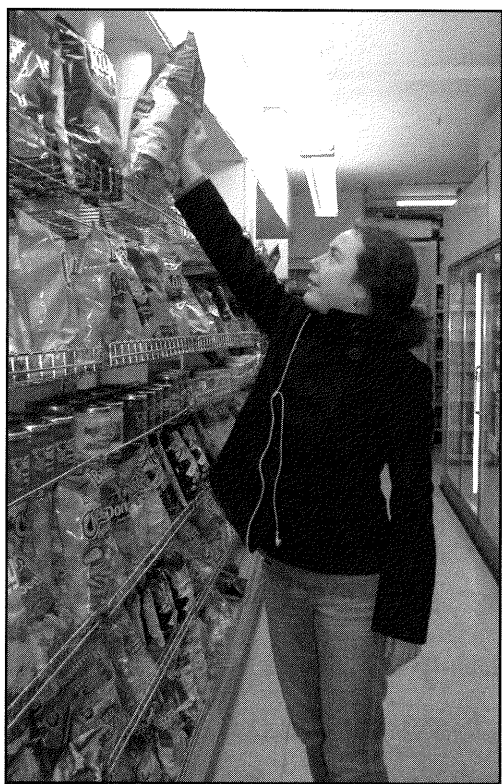


Photo by Rachel Turner

REACHING FOR a bag of Frito Lay's Ruffles, Sarah Schacht gets her afternoon fix at Harper Foods.

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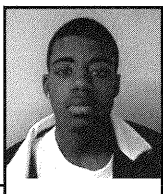
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Friday night showdown on the North Side

■ Maroons meet Romans on a court of dreams

By Matt Luchins
Sports editor

There's something special about a Friday night rivalry game. It's a rare moment when students forget their differences and high school drama, bonding as one unit to prove that our school is better than your school.

Yet the fans can scream and stomp and cheer, but it won't matter if the players can't come through. Add to that pressure a must-win conference game and you understand the scene as the boys' varsity basketball bus pulls onto Lake Shore Drive, January 9.

ALL 12 PLAYERS have entered their pre-game mode; faces expressionless, eyes straight ahead, staring at nothing in particular, as the window are too clouded to see through. Nothing changes until the bus exits North Avenue pulls in front of the Latin School. As the players gather their gear, a coach known simply as Coach Tommy blocks the aisle,

"When you get off this bus you should think of nothing but kicking this team's butt. Remember what happened at Northridge? Remember what happened?"

How could they forget? Losing to your only legitimate contender for the conference title hurts. Losing on a string of questionable fourth quarter calls? That's when things get ugly. They'll get another shot at Northridge, but if they lose tonight, that game is meaningless.

"ONLY REASON that happened is cuz we let it happen! We should have been up by 20. Everyone else has to be punished for what happened at Northridge."

Just past the entrance, a sharp left turn leads to Latin's gym. Comparable to Upper Sunny, it's old and creaky with wooden bleachers, which the players reach just as the j.v. game tips off. A few minutes later, Head Coach Troy Caldwell enters the gym, shaking hands with parents as he moves towards the players.

He sports a beard and mustache with his coaching attire, a tie and dress shirt, matching the players who are expected to dress up for game-days. They are also expected to match his intensity and passion for the game, but that costs more than khakis and a tie. He will literally fight for his team. His halftime speeches are a mix of fire and brimstone and though practices start at 5 p.m. he's been spotted at school as early as noon.

AS THE J.V. players exit the court, the varsity squads enter to a tremendous blast of music from the speakers. Watching a few minutes of the warm up and it's clear this is U-High's year.

Senior Zeke Upshaw is throwing down tomahawk dunks while some Latin players struggle with left-handed layups. With just minutes before tip-off the players gather round Coach Caldwell as he discusses strategy. His speech ends, "I'm not gonna say a word. I'm gonna see if you guys have grown up."

But seconds into the game, Latin scores a long-range jumper and he breaks his promise, leaping from his seat to call out plays. A three-pointer puts Latin up 5-0 and he calls time, then hands out 30 seconds of verbal pounding, berating his players to get back on defense and cover the three-point line.

The Maroons force a turnover and just as it seems the momentum is shifting, Sophomore Mike Turner, a 6-7 Division I recruit, forces up a contested shot that barely



Photos by Joe Boisvert

DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS (photos from top) of U-High fans, a Latin free throw shrinks the Maroons' lead to three late in the third quarter, January 9. The basketballers held firm to record a 57-51 victory.

FORCING HIS MAN away from the sidelines, Senior Tim Parsons disrupts a Latin inbounds play.

hits rim. Coach Caldwell calls him over, admonishing him in a whisper.

DESPITE GOING down early, the visiting fans are far louder than their counterparts. A Latin air ball brings jeers, until Mike misses another shot and Latin's point guard brings Zeke to the ground with a crossover then passes off for an open three. Coach Caldwell burns another time-out to address Mike,

"What's wrong with you! We talked about this and you just throw up another shot."

Then he focuses on the rest of the team.

"This too much pressure? Is Latin too much? You're not blocking out, letting them drive, get open shots."

AT THE FIRST buzzer Latin leads 15-10. The Maroons adjust their defense to cover the three-point line, switching from a 3-2 zone to man defense.

U-High starts the second quarter with two turnovers, but Latin can't capitalize and they pay for it when Junior Danny Levine's three-pointer keys a 7-0 run. Mike makes amends, grabbing an offensive rebound with a huge leap and scoring the put-back. Off the in-bounds, a steal leads to a thunderous dunk by Zeke.

Yes, some U-Highers don't wear their class color the week before Homecoming, but who said there's no school spirit? The noise is shaking the floor. At the half U-High is up seven, but it's still not enough.

"I'M NOT satisfied with our lead!" Coach Caldwell barks. He's loud enough to hear through the locker room doors.

"I'm not satisfied with our defense. Stop reaching and move your feet! The refs will call every touch. Watch his waist and when he moves, force him outside. Let's put these guys away!"

The second half starts with a Latin three-pointer followed by a U-High turnover and Coach Caldwell slaps his hands in frustration.

Latin pulls the game to three and a look at the scoreboard helps explain the resurgence. U-High has six fouls to Latin's

one and during a timeout, Coach Caldwell calls over a referee to argue his team's case. U-High gets the next two foul calls, but the third quarter ends with the game up for grabs.

LATIN OPENS the quarter with a turnover. The Romans force a tough shot, but Zeke scores the tip-in. On the other end Latin draws three straight fouls. From the sidelines, U-High's unofficial but undisputed cheerleader Alex Zimmer offers the offending referee some advice,

"At some point, you should read the rule book."

Zeke deflects a pass for a steal, but can't control the ball, giving it right back to Latin. To everyone in the stands it seems an easy bucket. But there's a reason Junior Stephan Bardo is on the court. 6'5" with long arms, he races down the court and throws himself at the shooter. He gets a full hand on the ball, leads the break, sees a man cut to the hoop and feeds him for two points.

UP BY 5 with the ball and 1:31 left, the game looks over until Junior Jordan Gipson, a point guard with Ivy League ambitions, turns the ball over and commits a foul. Latin hits both shots then calls a timeout. Coach Caldwell yells at Jordan,

"Don't talk about Princeton if you can't play here!"

Then pulling out a chalkboard, he draws up a play.

"Jordan and Zeke, I want you to stack here," he explains while vigorously circling a spot on the board. "Then Jordan, go straight for the ball. You'll get it. Grab it and sweep across your body." Seconds after mocking Jordan's college dreams, Coach Caldwell is putting the ball in his hands.

AND JORDAN makes sure it gets there, breaking towards the pass and drawing a foul. As he walks to the line, Junior Nathaniel Cuneo-Grant, the team's injured center, turns and says,

"He doesn't miss. And you can put that in the paper."

Not only does he make both shots, on the ensuing possession he records a steal, gets fouled again and hits the next two.

WITH 50 SECONDS left and the Maroons up seven, the U-High fans break out in song,

"Na-na-na-na, na-na-na-na, hey hey hey, goodbye."

The game ends with Stephan clanking two free shots. But with a 57-51 victory, he's all smiles. Until Coach Caldwell sees him.

"You missed two free throws, it's not funny!"

Then, before leading his team down to the locker room for a 15-minute tirade, he ruins the rest of their night,

"You can be sure there's practice tomorrow!"

A few players look displeased, but by now the fans have left and the speakers are quiet. The game is over. The magic is gone. And tomorrow, it's back to the daily grind.

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"One week our coach pretended to sleep through a competition, but then the next week he almost did. Now we're superstitious about playing pranks."

—Junior Julia Pinkham-Goldsmith, fencing team member

Win or lose, girl basketballers keep the competition on target

By Rachel Sylora

Midway reporter

"We are going to win this game by being fast. Nice and easy in the beginning. Follow your shots and work our options, communicate with each other."

Minutes before the highly anticipated game against rival school Latin, January 13 in Upper Kovler, Head Coach Meghan Janda reinforces the strategies that have led the girls' basketball team to a 15-1 record.

IMMEDIATELY THE team enters the packed gym to shoot lay-ups with the j.v. players, who finished with a well fought loss 30-32 to the Romans. After warm ups finish, the national anthem is sang by five Bel Canto members, then followed by a special performance from the acrobats of the WNBA Team Chicago Sky and their mascot "Sky Guy".

The game finally begins and though the players follow their coaches advice closely, Latin matches each basket, finishing the first half tied 31-31.

While the Dance Troupe entertains the crowd at halftime, Coach Janda and Assistant Coach Baker Franke huddle with their team to discuss tactics.

"THIS IS like a sprint. Get a lead, on any outside shots get it and move inside," advises Coach Janda. "Push every ball up the court. Go up strong, no nonsense, work it like that. Stay calm, you need to play together, it is time to run. Get going, get it going! Outside shots, come on U-High work!"

A unanimous "Work!" from the Maroons fills the gym. But by the end of the third quarter, Latin has pulled away, until the Maroons start the fourth quarter with a comeback.

With four minutes left, the scoreboard reads 48-54 and the intensity throughout the gym exceeds a new level. A time out is called when Junior Madeline Stacy suffers problems due to her contacts and the momentum is broken. Latin slips from their grasp

and the battle ends 52-65.

Besides the loss to Latin, the girls continue to progress as they face tough competition and are still aiming to win the Regional finals and sweep the ISL Championship, February 7.

THE MAROONS also encounter Morgan Park Academy Friday, home, then Timothy Christian and Francis Parker, Tuesday February 3 and Wednesday February 4, home.

"The Parker game we aren't too concerned about, but it is an important game because they are in our conference. This game will also help us build our strategies and improve on our techniques. We easily beat them last year," Captain Johanna Heinemen-Pieper, senior, said.

"The MPA game is going to be a tough game because they play aggressively and they do not back down. It is tough to defend against them because they bulldoze their way to the hoop, not caring who is in their way. Their fans are also almost as aggressive as their team is. Timothy Christian has some height, and they are a good team, a somewhat physical team, but we just have to match that and play our game. We have to be sneaky, make good passes, and run some of our plays we have been working hard on all the way throughout the game."

DEVELOPING EXPERIENCE for the younger players and polishing rebound tactics for the upcoming games, the j.v. team works to perfect defensive strategies.

"It is going well because we've come a long way. Several players on the j.v. team are playing basketball for the first time in their lives," Assistant Coach Franke explained. "The progress made between our first game and now is astounding."

"We've still got a long way to go in terms of individual skills, but we're playing as a team now, working together much better than before. In particular,



Photo by Kyra Sturgill

DISHING OUT a no-look pass, Senior Alexis Jenkins finds an open teammate against Latin, January 13. The Romans were too strong for the Maroons bag of tricks, pulling out a 65-52 victory.

our team defense is quite good. For a j.v. team we play a very sophisticated man-to-man rotational defense. It's taken a while for the concepts to sink in, but now things are starting to click and it's much more difficult for teams to score against us."

Scores are as follows:

Midway Classic Tournament, November 11-28, home, varsity placed 2nd of 6 teams; **Holy Trinity**, December 1, away: Varsity won 59-54; **North Shore Country Day**, December 4, home: Varsity won 45-27, j.v. won 33-11; **Willows Academy**, December 11, away: Varsity won 48-40, j.v. won 31-22; **Elgin Academy**, December 15, home: Varsity won 60-33; **Mather Holiday Tournament**, December 18-23, away: Varsity placed 1st of 8 teams; **Illiana Christian**, January 9, home: Varsity won 58-55; **Latin**, January 13, home: Varsity lost 52-65, j.v. lost 30-32; **Parker**, January 15, away: Varsity won 82-30.

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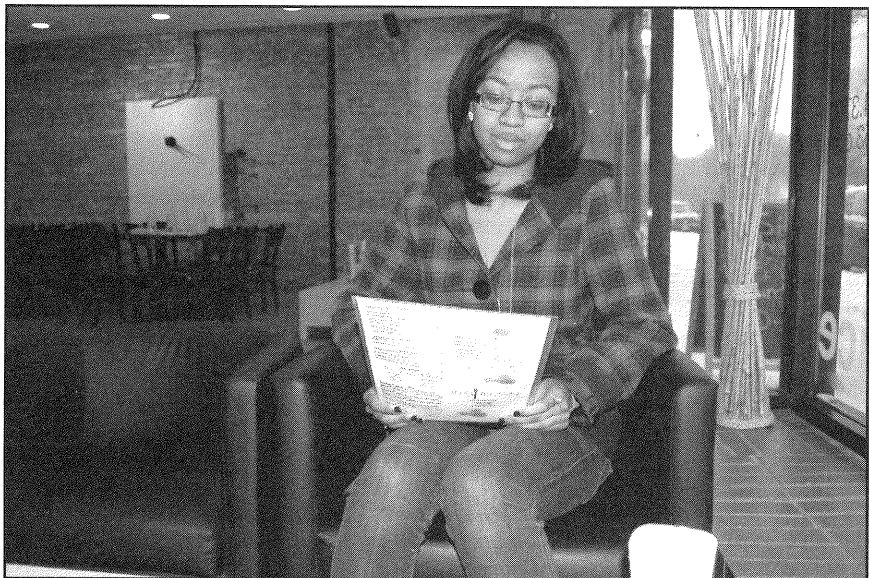


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Fencers head into finale after action-packed season

By Leslie Sibener

Midway reporter

Competing in their ninth and final meet, U-High fencers will travel more than 100 miles to Waukesha, Wisconsin, Saturday to face 10 schools at the Catholic Memorial Great Lakes Championship.

Last year at the Championship, the Maroons competed as a club. This year Athletic Director David Ribbens designated fencing an official sport, entitling the team to school funding, after club members asked for the change.

Members have paid for their equipment, but an electronic scoring system was bought with grants from the United States Fencing Association and money donated by U-High parents.

Fifteen of 20 members will compete at the Championship in sabre, a light thrusting and cutting weapon, foil, a

light thrusting weapon, and épée, a heavy thrusting weapon.

"We compete in five events, and three weapons: women's and men's sabre and foil, and men's épée," explained Junior Clare Brody, cocaptain with Junior Bill Steuban, "Last year when it was just a club there was only foil, so most people compete in that event."

Head Coach Bakhyt Abdikulov, a two-time World Cup gold medalist and former coach of the U.S. Junior Women's foil team, specializes in foil and épée. Assistant Coach Thomas Charrette, a silver medalist at the 2001 World Junior Championship and the 2001 European Championship, advises sabre.

"We have really good coaches," Bill said, "Thomas and Bakhyt are a lot more experienced than other coaches. They can really help us with technical things where others just let the fencers loose and have them teach each other."

Runners can count on talent

By Isadora Ruyter-Harcourt

Midway reporter

Preparing for the outdoor season, boys' and girls' indoor track and field Maroons face Independent School League competition during three home meets, Tuesday February 6, Friday February 27 and Friday March 6, at the Henry Crown Center.

Last year, the girls captured the ISL title, and the boys finished 3rd, creating high expectations.

"This year we expect a really good team, because there are more experienced people coming back from previous years, such as Juniors Sherry Fu and Aoife MacMahon, Seniors Emily Kuo, Josey Mintel and Leah Sibener for the girls,"

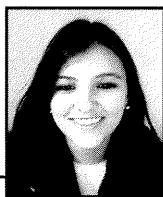
Head Coach Bud James explained.

"As well as Seniors Joe Hurst, Matt Fitzpatrick, Aaron Buikema, Donald Traubert, Steven Heinz, Kevin Brunke, and Sophomores Robert Meyer and Thomas Aquino for the boys,"

"The more challenging teams will be North Shore, Parker and Latin. We should do well in the boys' two mile, mile and 4x4 races. For the girls, we will do better this year in distance, the 200, 400, 800, 1600, 3200, 4x4 and 4x4 relay.

"Most of the kids who come to track were on cross country, where they went to State, and they expect to get there in track. They run so well because their teammates and coaches have high standards and expect them to meet the high standards."

"Playing hockey is just something I've always done. It's my big smelly baby"
—Sophie Ortel, senior



Fired up on ice battles

■ *Senior plays goaltender for Latin hockey squad*

By Bill Steuben

Midway reporter

At first when people see me with a huge bag before games they think it's funny because I'm pretty small. It's really funny to see those people's faces after the game."

Despite Senior Sophie Ortel's small stature, little gets by the hockey goaltender.

SOPHIE HAS PLAYED hockey since the age of 6 and plays on a Latin team which also fields players from U-High, Parker and Whitney Young. She played at her former school in Boston before coming to U-High. Sophie and the Latin team practice on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, not including games.

"I started playing when I was in 1st grade, we had the choice between basketball and ice hockey. Most of the girls picked basketball and did figure skating outside of school," Sophie said. "I wanted to do the least girly one, so I picked ice hockey. Most of my friends were from the hockey team."

A fluke decision caused Sophie to block shots, not take them.

"I PLAYED from 1st grade to 8th grade. I originally played right-center, but one day our goalie was sick. Our coach asked for volunteers and when nobody raised their hands, I decided I'd give it a shot. That was in 7th grade."

Sophie's skills were discovered soon after she arrived in Chicago.

"I moved here right before freshman year. The coach at Latin contacted me because they needed a goalie,"



Photo courtesy of Sophie Ortel

CROUCHING DOWN Sophie Ortel defends her goal during a recent practice of the Latin ice hockey team at McFetridge Sports Complex. Photographers must shoot from behind a barrier.

Sophie said. "But my mom didn't want me to play my first year because she wanted me to make friends outside of hockey. So sophomore year they contacted me again and I said I wanted to play."

SOPHIE HOPES to continue playing hockey in Boston, where she plans on going to college.

"I don't think I'll play Division I or Division III but I would definitely play club," Sophie said. "Varsity hockey out in Boston, where I plan on going, is like a full time job."

Despite the long season from late September to March and practices starting later than 9 p.m. Sophie says her family remains supportive of her passion for ice hockey.

SPORTS GABRIEL BUMP

Dreams are all right, but don't confuse them with reality

THERE'S A funny thing about dreams.

Once they come true, they still remain more fantasy than reality.

Take for instance, a dream I had not to long ago that Derrick Rose, a South Side Chicago native, would some how find his way into Bulls' red and white.

One first-round draft pick and countless a n k l e - b r e a k i n g crossovers later, here I am. Speechless, amazed and any other adjective that could feebly attempt to replace coherent and original thought. A pleasant medley of pride, astonishment and the ominous sense of pure dumb luck.

But nevertheless, speechless.

TO OFFER another example, possibly one more globally shared, take the swearing in of President Barack Hussein Obama.

I was present in Grant Park the moment all of downtown Chicago stood still, only to breath in a collective and foreign air of togetherness.

I huddled together with millions of shivering faithful at the Inauguration in D.C. when Obama was sworn-in. (Hell, I was even in D.C. when he did it again the following day.)

Speechless.

BUT THERE'S a funny thing about silence also. Where words fail, imaginations take hold.

So instead of raising questions, Obama's mantra of change sparked boundless answers. Not only to social and economic dilemmas either.

The Bears' mediocrity?

Change is coming baby.

Bulls can't rebound?

A new day is on the horizon.

Cubs going another century without a World Series?

Don't worry; we've made it to the mountain top. Curses be damned.

THE ONLY ISSUE arises when one allows these pipe dreams to cloud truth and fact. When illusions of grander grow too big for the dreamer.

Case in point: Chicago's bid for the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Named among the four finalist cities last summer, Chicago appeared to leap lengths ahead of the pack with the election of Obama, a global icon whose presence transcends mere politics.

One senior member of the International Olympic Committee stated, earlier this month in regards to Chicago's bid, that "It is theirs to lose."

IF THIS is true, then Mayor Richard Daley can rest happy atop his throne made of pretty flowers and general useless shrubbery.

If only...

I'm sure the IOC is going to have a few grievances about bringing the games to a city with the most murders in the United State, but maybe not.

There is also something to be said about placing a stadium in Washington Park when most parents wouldn't allow their kids to go there after dark.

The way I see it Obama's election counted as four steps forward.

BUT A shocking murder rate and a variety of other social issues, not to mention "Blagagate," could be considered large steps back.

Let's take the Olympics the same way we should Obama's first term.

Phenomenal for the city now, but let's not get ahead of ourselves.

Swimmers using experience in wins

By Nick Phalen

Midway reporter

Forecasting a victory for today's meet against Lake Forest Academy 4:30 p.m. at the Ratner Center, Varsity Boys' Swim Team Head Coach Paul Gunty is confident in his veterans' ability to lead and inspire younger team members.

Of 28 team members 19 are underclassmen, but the squad pulled off big victories over Whitney Young and Northside Prep earlier in the season. A young team has its drawbacks, including lack of depth, which Coach Gunty believes cost the team a victory against Latin, December 12.

"WE LOST to Latin because we don't have a lot of depth because we don't have enough really good swimmers to be able to excel at the specialty strokes, which are strokes that aren't freestyle," Coach Gunty said. "In the specialty categories we would have one really good swimmer who would take 1st, but they would get 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, and get more points than us in that event even though we had the winner."

For Nico Gomez, varsity cocaptain with Max Budovitch (both are seniors), the team's youth develops unity through helping the newcomers.

"We have a lot of new guys on the team this year," Nico said. "So the whole team is geared towards helping them. We are all looking to get them up to speed as much as possible. Also, this is really the kind of sport where we need togetherness and strength in order to succeed, and I think that the new guys make a big difference."

RESULTS OF recent meets are as follows:

Northside Prep, December 9, home: Varsity won 99-70, j.v. won 68-56; **Latin**, December 12, home: Varsity lost 73-89, j.v. lost 42-44; **Whitney Young**, January 13, home: Varsity won 91-72, j.v. won 84-43; **Riverside-Brookfield Invitational**, January 17, away: Varsity placed 8th of 9 with 81 points; **St. Ignatius**, January 20, home: Varsity lost 101-63, j.v. won 61-49

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- Stephen Daiter Gallery

Stephen Daiter Gallery is pleased to welcome in the New Year with "The Transparent City", artist Michael Wolf's dramatic interpretation of Chicago's architectural landscape.

"The Transparent City" surveys the density and magnitude of Chicago's skyline. Wolf's large scale prints reveal the enormity of its skyscrapers at the same time they enable us to observe intimate and private goings on

within individual apartments and offices. By cropping out traces of street and sky Wolf constructs an abstracted and endless world of windows, lights and reflections. He has created a group of photographs which remain familiar and at the same time fantastic. Michael Wolf was born in Munich, Germany in 1954. He grew up in the United States and studied at University of California at Berkeley

and at the University of Essen in Germany. He recently moved to Paris after a ten year stay in Hong Kong during which time he produced "Architecture of Density" (precursor to The Transparent City).



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