

**LOOKING INSIDE
GROOVING TO
HIP TUNES,
U-HIGHERS HEAT
UP I-HOUSE**
3 Colorful,, striking fashions
paraded into International
House for the Formal dance
February 7. A whole page
of color photos!



Art by Eric Cochrane

**EXPOSING
8-9 A
DIVIDED
CITY**

The Midway takes a look at
segregation in Chicago and what it
means for the city



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**U-HIGHERS
15 ROCK OUT!**

From alternative to jazz,
U-Highers strengthen
friendships and jam
to original music



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U-HIGH MIDWAY

Wednesday,
February 25,
2009

Volume 33, Number 6

University High School

1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637

i Viva LATINOS

*Small but mighty group
wields leadership,
celebrates vivid culture*

By Nick Phalen

Midway reporter

For the past 12 years, Senior Isabel Del Canto has lived two separate lives.

Isabel's mother is Cuban and her father, Chilean. Yet her close friends are white.

She's continuously caught in a seemingly endless limbo between her life at home and how she is supposed to act at school, such is the case with the 13 other Latinos at U-High.

IN A CITY where 28.1 percent of the population is Hispanic or Latino, these demographics only make up 2.8 percent of U-Highers.

Out of the 153 faculty members at the Lab Schools, 10 are Latino or Hispanic.

Even in Latinos Unidos, the voice of the Latino community at U-High, only four members are Latino.

During a free period in the cafeteria, Isabel, also Cultural Union president, recalled problems she experienced as a minority at the Lab Schools.

Internal issues that she explained as leading to an 'identity crisis.'

"**I COME HERE** and I know I'm Latina but I feel I can't express my culture," Isabel said. "My close friends are all white. I almost felt like I had to be more like them to be accepted."

"When we're speaking about our holidays or family events or whatever, I shy away from talking about how theirs are different than mine. In recent years, I've started to embrace my culture more."

"There are a ton of Latinos in downtown Chicago. People don't really think about that. The stereotypes of Latin Americans here are pretty negative. A lot of people say I don't act Latina enough. Like wearing lip liner and hoop earrings everyday. There are stereotypes that so many people don't fall into."

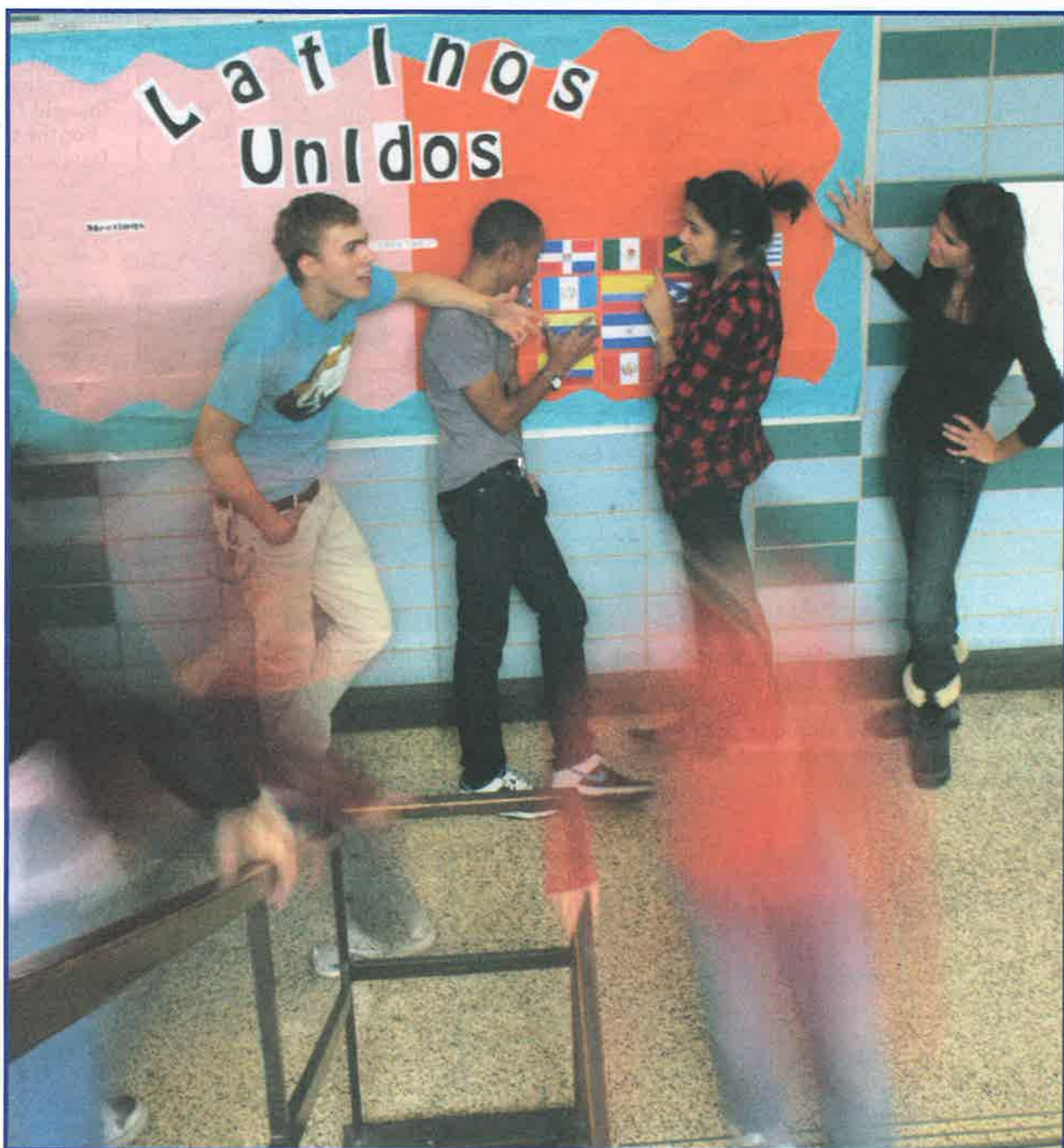


Photo by Jeremy Handrup

FOURTEEN U-HIGHERS with Latinos backgrounds include, from left, Seniors Nico Gomez,

Junior Antonio Robles; Sophomore Crystal Maciel; and Senior Isabel Del Canto.

AS PRESIDENT of Latinos Unidos, Senior Vanessa Ramirez said she notices a strong sense of pride and heritage amongst the Latino population at U-High, no matter how small their representation might be.

"It was kind of difficult coming to this school where there aren't many Latinos," said Vanessa, who came

to U-High her freshman year.

"For example, I would never say flip-flops at home, I would say *chanclas*. When I first came here it was kind of weird. I've only really met a couple of Latinos at Lab and there is really a strong sense of pride of culture. So, like if I mention something, like

(continues on page 7)



Photo courtesy of Catherine Yuchins

JUST OUTSIDE Bogota, Columbia, Catherine Yuchins visited Chingaza National Park with her family last summer.

Living in two different worlds

For Latinos, heritage and future blend significantly

By Bill Stueben

Midway reporter

Retelling the circumstances of her mother's escape from the Guatemalan civil war of 1992, Freshman Carol Guzman remembers her mother's account of the strenuous situation with a smile because it's a story she rarely tells.

Hidden behind the faces of Hispanic U-Highers, countless stories remain untold: stories connecting two different worlds, stories about travels, former homes, different cultures and climates.

"As rebels in Guatemala rose up against the government, the people were forced to choose sides," Carol said.

"The rebels came to my grandfather's shop and he had no choice but to help them. The government found out he had and killed both my grandfather and my mom's oldest brother. My mom could take residence here in the U.S. because she was not safe in her own country."

Moving to the Chicago before the problems in Guatemala grew, Carol's aunt helped her sister make friends and find jobs when she arrived.

"My aunt showed my mom which church to go to and my mother met different Hispanic families through the church," Carol said.

"I don't have much family left in Guatemala, but still want to visit. I would like to see what happened there. It's an important part of my family history."

Every other summer, Freshman Brenda Benitez returns to her parents' native Mexico to visit her cousins, grandparents and family friends.

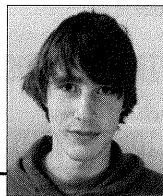
"I've got a lot of family in Mexico. My grandparents live in the mountains so it's a totally different living experience than here in Chicago," Brenda said. "One time, my grandfather let me and my cousins ride a bull. Imagine that happening in Chicago."

"The climate is so tropical in Mexico. There are insane insects, scorpions and spiders that many

(continues on page 7)

2 Coming up this week

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009



"I think the student-written plays are really creative. There's a lot of thought behind the original material."
—Sam Shapiro, senior



Photo by Emily Chiu

PLAY THAT FUNKY MUSIC, ETC.

SPOUTING THE classic sounds and grooves of '70s funk, such as "Pass the Peas" by Maceo Parker, Funk Band, including Andy Zheng and Monique Johnson (in photo), will perform at Artsfest this Thursday, 10:45 a.m. in Belfeld 245.

Other Funk Band members include Kevin Brunke, Yael Litwin, Max Budovitch, Sam Frampton, Harry Neal, Max Wagner and Andrew Sandwick.

The band will also perform songs by James Brown and Parliament.

Five plays, musician conjure night of variety for SET

By Isaac Stanley Becker
Midway reporter

In an undisclosed location, at an undisclosed time, in New York city, a man in a blue shirt and a red tie sits in an empty room.

Looming over him, another man, clad in a black suit, interrogates him about a mugging he witnessed earlier that afternoon. Abruptly, the interrogator leaves the room in frustration.

"THE CHICKEN and His Road," one of two student-written plays in Student Experimental Theatre's production 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 26, 27 and 28 in Belfield Theatre, takes off from a common joke but presents a drama about moral decisions, according to the writer and director, Senior Alex Zimmer.

"There's one scene where someone's getting mugged and the guy who plays the chicken, or the coward, runs across the stage away from the crime and crosses the street," Alex explained. "You can see the joke but you're also watching someone getting mugged."

The play details the conflicting reactions that the interrogated man, Max, played by Sophomore Henry Bergman, has about a mugging after a question-

ing by interrogator Brian, played by Junior Nick Elitzik. Max later argues with Megan, played by Senior Kovacs, about the robbing.

"IT'S NOT a comedy by any means," Alex said. "The idea is it's kind of a study of right and wrong."

The other student-written play, "Hit and Run," portrays a mortuary business looking for customers.

SET's production also includes three one-act plays by playwrights Christopher Durang and William Inge and a guitar and vocal solo by Junior John Pape.

INSPIRED BY the 2007 movie "Just Buried," Senior India Cusack, writer and director of "Hit and Run," decided to write her play about a funeral home.

"I thought the movie was incredibly clever and I tried to translate it into a play and add my own direction," India said. "When I wrote it, I tried to be kind of quirky and funny in a sort of off-beat way. I'm trying to work with the actors to portray this as well as some sort of irony and awkwardness."

"I have a lot of odd characters in the play. It's supposed to make it seem like the whole world is full of unusual and self-involved people."

THE PLAY "Mrs. Sorken," by Christopher Durang, features only one character, played by Freshman Georgie Pys-Garzotto.

Senior Shirley Qin, director, is focusing on the personality of a middle-aged woman obsessed with the theater.

"Mrs. Sorken speaks directly to the audience," Shirley said. "She is this very quirky and outgoing woman."

"You can see the joke but you're also watching someone getting mugged. The idea is it's kind of a study of right and wrong."

—Alex Zimmer
senior

Hip-hop to dance school into daylong Artsfest

By Tommy Wile
Midway reporter

Hip-hop dance troupe House Arrest will open Artsfest in an assembly 9 a.m., this Thursday, February 26, in Kovler Gym.

"House Arrest is a dance troupe that does performances around Chicago," said Senior Rachel Turner, committee cochairperson with Senior Emily Searles. "They are a group of people in their 20s and early 30s. On the stage, there will be about 20 people energetically dancing simultaneously, which is something we thought the students would enjoy."

For the day's closing assembly, students will get a mix of Indian Dance, rap and Broadway standards.

"We decided to do a cabaret thing this year," Rachel said. "Musical Theatre Club, Bhangra Team and Ike Edgerton, who is a senior who raps, will perform. They're all upbeat and we thought having a cabaret will be a great way to end the day."

Artsfest was began in 1966 by Student Council President David Boorstein. At one point it became a two-week event. This year's one-day Artsfest will offer 98 workshops in six periods. Presented by students, faculty and guests, workshops will include projects such as making and drinking Bubble Tea and tie-dyeing t-shirts. Caribou Coffee will again serve smoothies and pastries in the cafeteria.

To facilitate registration, the Artsfest Committee established a website.

"In past years, students filled out a form requesting their top three choices for each period and then we would have to put people in different places," Rachel said. "This year, students would go online, look at the choices available and see if what they want to do has any open spots left."

For a second year, the alternative rock band Decadence, with seniors Ari Ehrmann, Nico Gomez and Marcel Gout, will perform.

"We wanted to do Artsfest again this year because we felt we didn't do as well we could have last year," Ari said. "Although we had practiced a lot, we didn't really practice right, so we're doing this year's Artsfest to finish our high school career on a high note."



Photo by Emily Chiu

DRAMATIC DILEMMA

"THE CHICKEN and His Road," one of five one-act plays in Student Experimental Theatre's production, Thursday through Saturday, tells the story of three characters and their

conflicting reactions to a mugging, following a puzzling interrogation.

Megan will be played by Kelly Kovacs, Max will be played by Henry Bergman.

"SHE IS standing there prepared to give this speech about the theater, then realizes that there is an audience and becomes very warm and talkative."

"Glory In the Flower," written by playwright William Inge and directed by Junior Lillian Rosner, contrasts youth and age, with Freshman Nicholas Phalen playing a young Joker.

"The play is about looking back into the past, particularly past relationships," Nicholas said. "I play a younger guy who sits in the back of the bar. My role is to provide a contrast to older characters. I symbolize naivete."

CENTERING AROUND an at-

tempted suicide, "Diversions" written by Christopher Durang, is being directed by Linda Huber.

"We try to pick plays that fit together but they are also very different from each other so that it is a well-balanced show," said Kelly, SET Board head. "A main part of experimental theatre is actually incorporating student written plays if possible and we're really proud that we have two really strong ones this year."

Drama Teachers Liucija and Allen Ambrosini are faculty advisers.

Other SET Board members include: Robert Vavra, Charlotte Lastra, Andrew Zich, Linda Huber, Aaron Lichter.

"I know that I can speak for a lot of my friends when I say that Formal this year wasn't as fun because the D.J. didn't play music that would get the party started."
 -Annchellie Akuamoah, junior



Fashion on Parade

With temperatures reaching 53 degrees and brisk winds blowing outside, nearly 200 U-Highers partied like rock stars at Cultural Union's Formal Dance February 7 at International House. Frenzied "single ladies" showed that they could be "divas" while boys heated it up, grabbed girls and jammed to "Shawty Say" by Shawty Lo as DJ Wayne "Hustle" Hampton played requested hits. Clad in versatile ensembles, girls donned dresses ranging from form fitting reds and blues, classic little black dresses to short neutral vintage gowns. Most girls opted to flaunt their strappy peep toed stiletto heels and elegant flats while some preferred to reveal their dance moves barefoot. A few boys decked out in stylish sports coats and bow ties to fit the night's formal theme while most expressed the theme with a twist by strutting simple dress shirts and pants topped with fitted caps.

Page produced by Denise Akuamoah



Photo by Lucille Benoit

FUN AND flirty curls flattered Morgan Jackson and Shacara Ledbetter's unique pink and grey dresses.



Photo by Lucille Benoit

SPARKLING SEQUINS embellished Alex Fryer's black minidress while Antonio Robles kept things casual.



Photo by Lucille Benoit

JAMMING TO Pitbull's "The Anthem," Amelia Acosta and Natalia Khosla really stood out in their spaghetti strapped partially backless purple and metallic grey tube top bubble hemmed minidresses and peep toe heels.



Photo by Lexie Mansfield

SHOWSTOPPING JUNIORS donned sophisticated attire. Audrey Alexander looked graceful in her version of the traditional little black dress with a belted waist. Lucas Bradley flaunted a pewter button up paired with black slacks and shoes. Michael Angone radiated in a red rose petal mini dress, black leggings and black patent leather flats.



Photo by Lexie Mansfield

STUNNING SENIORS, Jaya Sah and Emily Searles donned simple straight hairstyles and close toed patent leather heels. Jaya dazzled in a short pleated v-neck royal blue ensemble while Emily looked chic in her traditional little black dress that possessed a metallic circled pattern on the bottom half.



Photo by Lexie Mansfield

KEEPING IT cool, Patrick Philizaire sported all-black from head to toe and added a fitted cap for a nice touch. Ciara Zagaja rocked a cute side ponytail that accentuated her blue bustier tube top, high waisted skirt, black pantyhose and black peep toe heels. Leah Sibener looked elegant in a strapless silver bubble hemmed dress and black patent leather heels.



Photo by Lucille Benoit

DIVERSE STYLES adorned these group of girls. Shannon Vavra wore a cream colored tube dress with a gold bow waist and gold sequined bottom paired with cream colored flats while Lexie Barber modeled a two-toned sky blue and sheer black dress with glitter designed bottom. Jenny Huey wore a blue tube minidress with a side ruffle paired with black slacks and open toed black heels while Tomi Johnson opted for a white and black polka dotted mini dress paired with cropped black leggings and black flats. Victoria Bills chose an all-red sequined dress paired with glass slippers while Joanna Orszulak wore a simple black tubed bubble hemmed minidress and black peep toed heels.



Photo by Lexie Mansfield

CLASS KINGS AND QUEENS crowned at the Formal dance, from left, include Freshmen Daniil Ilyin and Sydney Fishman; Sophomores Jonathan Portugal

and Brienne Ellis; Juniors Oliver Elfenbaum and Julia Baird; Seniors Rachel Bishop and Richard Tomlinson III.

4 Who's Doing What

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009



"Going to the World Affairs Council of America Conference is a great opportunity to learn about the global economic crisis from distinguished experts in the field."
—Danielle Kutasov, junior



Photo by Jeremy Handrup

SNOW FOOLIN'

AFTER A THREE-HOUR bus ride, seniors arrived at their three-day Getaway at the hilly territory of the Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena Saturday January 31.

Seniors could choose between skiing, swimming, bowling, ice skating and sledding during the stay.

"The weather was beautiful and warm, but there was still plenty of snow, which was great since there wasn't a problem with sledding or anything," said Senior Class President Nico Gomez.

"Most of the people, including myself, chose sledding."

Arriving at the resort, some seniors chose to

play in the snow. In the photo, Joe Boisvert, left, Gabe Bump, Patrick Philizaire and Richard Tomlinson built a snow creature. Jeremy Handrup helped build the snow creature as well.

"We got to the resort and my cabin group and I had been sent to the wrong room," Joe said. "We had nothing to do, so instead of whining, we made a snowman."

Connecting giant balls of snow, Gabe said he was creating a mythical snow beast.

"Jeremy was in charge of rolling the snowballs," Gabe said. "So, most of us just fashioned the balls into this ridiculous mythical beast with a goatee."

Science contest award surprises senior in class

By Charles Jiang

Midway reporter

"There was no warning when the prize patrol burst into my A.P. computer class, carrying an oversized check. I was mortified."

So said Senior Linda Zhao, responding to the representatives of the Intel Science Talent Search delivering the news of her being selected as a semifinalist in the contest. Linda is the 5th U-High semifinalist since 1998, when Intel Corporation took over the contest from Westington Corporation.

Administered by the Society for Science and the Public, the Science Talent Search targets high school seniors working on science and math research projects. Each of 300 semifinalists receives a \$1,000 award and their schools receive an additional \$1,000.

During the Westington Corporation years, four U-Highers placed in the top 10. In 1987, 1988, 1990 and 2002, Louise Chang won 1st place, Ben Abelle won 3rd place, Matthew Peter Headrick won 1st place and Beckett William Sterner won 7th place, respectively.

Submitting a math proof for her project, Linda said she developed and partially proved a conjecture, which estimates the number of points in simple figures for different dimensions.

"The GLY conjecture was proven up to the 6th dimesion and disproved for the 7th," Linda explained. "I modified it and proved the new conjecture up to the 9th dimension."

Beginning work for the contest in August of 2007, Linda said she learned about the contest from Dr. Stephen Yau, a math professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

"Linda comes to my house on Saturdays and sometimes to my office to work," explained Dr. Yau in a telephone interview. "At the beginning she spent maybe two hours each week, but after she became more familiar with the work she came for shorter times."

Helping her prepare for the STS, Linda said Dr. Yau provided her with relevant readings.

"He gave me proofs of the GLY conjecture for the 3rd, 4th and 5th cases and a rough estimate for this problem," Linda said. "I had no idea before that proofs like what I was doing with him existed."



Linda

Too Sweet to Pass Up

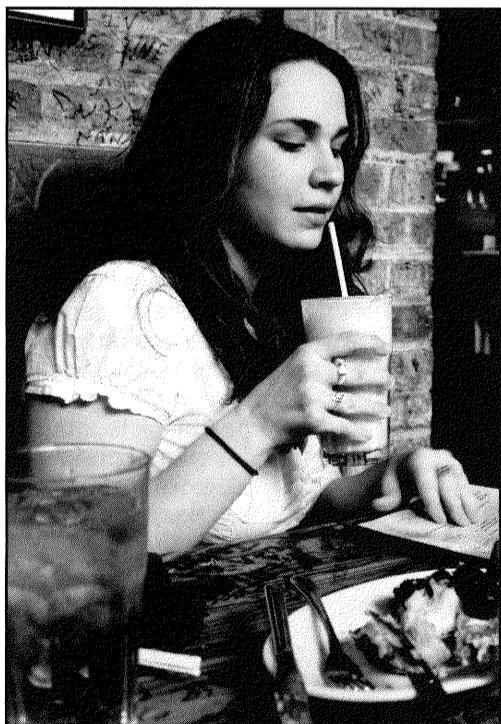


Photo by Kyra Sturgill

A SCRUMPTUOUS Mexicana Shake in hand, Alexandra Balabanov scans the Medici's menu for a hearty meal while enjoying a yummy fruit tart.

At the Medici, there is no need to save dessert for last! Before choosing from a selection of salads, sandwiches and pizzas, indulge in everything from cheese cake, rice pudding, Gracie's apple pie and more!



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Recital Night performances to spotlight premiere talent

By Joanna Orszulak

Midway reporter

Thirty advanced instrumentalists and vocalists from grades 7-12 will perform in the second Recital Night of the year 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 3, and Thursday, March 5, at Fulton Hall in the Goodspeed Building, 1010 East 59th Street.

Sponsored by the Music Department, the concert is open to the public and admission is free. Among the

performances, will be vocal, piano, violin and possibly chamber music and wind instruments, according to Music Department Chairperson Brad Brickner.

"The thing that amazes me is that recital gets better and better every time," Mr. Brickner said. "I am amazed at the level of talent and ability and hard work at the Lab Schools. You really hear some beautiful performances. The musicians study music outside of school and work very hard."

D.C. conference

By Spencer Lee

Midway reporter

Discussing issues on globalization and the international economy, 28 U-Highers participated in the World Affairs Council of America National Conference February 18-21 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington D.C., four blocks from the White House.

After attending the conference for seven years, History Teacher Andrea Martonffy last year arranged for U-High to send the first high school delegation.

Mrs. Martonffy and fellow History Teacher Paul Horton chose this year's delegates, evaluating them on a required essay in which they explained why they wanted to participate in the conference.

Sponsored by the World Affairs Councils of America, a national organization that supports 87 local foreign affairs councils, the conference focused on "The Global Economy: A World of Change, A World of Challenge."

U-High delegates planned to attend panel discussions by Senator Richard Lugar and Jagdish Bahgwati, an

Economics and Law professor at Columbia University and a distinguished international leader in International Economics at the Council on Foreign Relations who spoke at last years conference.

"Students who attended in the WACA trip brought new knowledge of our economy back to the school, and that really is our main goal," Mrs. Martonffy said.

"We came back from the trip, debriefed on all that we learned during the two days we participated in the meetings, and dissected the speeches we heard."

"The purpose of this trip is to help the kids gain a better perspective on the subject of our economy and to learn more about the purpose of globalization. What I love about this trip is the immense knowledge given to the students and the amount they absorb in those two short days. It really says something about the kids at U-High that they still spare time to learn more of something so complex."

"My only concern was the level of expertise needed to even begin to understand our economic situation and the topic of globalization."

"My lover Denise comes from a Ghanaian culture and her outgoing and religious personality reflect that. I also love her because of the delicious Ghanaian rice her mother makes!"

—Alexandra Balabanov, senior



Lorem Ipsum.....by Gene Cochrane



CHARACTER SKETCH BY ANDREW SYLORA

Ghana and America, this girl gets the best of both worlds

WITH AN immense pride in her Ghanaian background that matches her opinionated and outgoing personality, Senior Denise Akuamoah never hesitates to share her culture with all her friends.

"All of my friends know that I'm all



Art by Eric Cochrane
DENISE AKUAMOAH

about Ghanaian pride," Denise said.

"I bring them Ghanaian food, introduce them to Ghanaian movies and songs, offer to take them to Ghanaian festivals and my Ghanaian church, anything to try to introduce them to my culture and make it an experience for them."

BORN IN Chicago to two immigrants from Ghana, a country in West Africa, Denise was raised on the South Side heavily influenced by Ghanaian culture.

Recognized for her versatile fashions, Denise openly elaborates on her pride in her heritage.

That extends to her appreciation for the opportunities at U-High since she arrived freshman year from Sutherland Elementary in Beverly with a scholarship grant from The Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund.

"My Ghanaian culture has a big influence on my religious life," she says. "I have this routine of reading my Bible every morning and every night because I think it really helps me stay on track throughout the day."

"I BELIEVE that my culture also has a big influence on my performance at school. I have a lot of family in Ghana who are struggling to advance their education so I really value learning."

"Unlike Ghana, where there are only three universities, here in America there are so many opportunities to further one's education. Knowing that, I feel that in comparison to a lot of my friends, I look at college as more of a privilege as opposed to an entitlement."

President this year of the Black Students' Association, Denise remembers how she fought to get more underclassmen involved in office positions.

"WHEN I first came to Lab a lot of people in my class were hesitant to take an active role in the BSA," Denise explained.

"Being the outgoing person that I am, I started to get involved in any way I could by offering my ideas, and eventually ran for liaison as a freshman."

"I think a lot of people didn't run for office as underclassmen because they are probably too intimidated, but I do

something for everyone."

An associate editor and columnist on the Midway, Denise edits the People page, writes music reviews and specializes in feature stories.

"I finally gained the courage my junior to take the class and I have enjoyed being part of the staff ever since then," Denise said. "I also love Mr. Brasler."

Denise's aspiring college major also reflects on her caring and thoughtful personality

"IN COLLEGE, I would like to ma-

jor in psychology.

"I have always been fascinated with the way the mind operates and I really feel that majoring in such a subject will be beneficial to my pediatric endeavors."

"Because of journalism, organizations like BSA, and the accepting people here, I have come to appreciate the opportunities available to me and I am so grateful to attend a school like U-High that appreciates my Ghanaian heritage."

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State honors senior scholars Merit Scholar semifinalists move to finals

Sixty-nine seniors have been honored as Illinois State Scholars.

The award, based on standardized test scores, is sponsored by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

The seniors are:

Melita Aquino, Caroline Bank, Emily Bieniek, Nathan Bishop, Rachel Bishop, Joseph Brehm, Max Budovitch, Aaron Buikema, Michael Cardoza, Mike Casey, Emily Chiu, Eleanor Easton, Malcolm Edgerton, Ariel Ehrmann, James Eichholz, Dana Elliot, Adeline Epstein.

Kali Frampton, Kayla Ginsburg, Kendall Gordon, Marcel Gout, Iona Hall, Jeremy Handrup, Alex Hsu, John Hudson, Erica Jordan, Alyce Kanabrocki, Phillip Kemp Bohan, Abraham Kohrman, Emily Kuo, Alexis Madara.

Jonathan Margoliah, Rebecca Marks, William Montag, Elisabeth Morant, Tim Parsons, Alex

Penev, Shirley Qin, Katherine Reott, Andrej Rosic, Jaya Sah, Mark Schutz, Leah Sibener, Molly Simon, Tom Stanley-Becker, William Sullivan, Madhav Suresh, Sahana Suresh.

Ruiqi Tang, Richard Tomlinson, Donald Traubert, Victoria Tsay, Rachel Turner, Anjuli Uhlig, Christina Verdirame, Max Wagner, Nate Wise, Mark Wittels, Myles Woerner, Jorri Wyatt, Ethel Yang, Linda Zhao, Alex Zimmer, Michael Zook.

All of U-High's National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists have moved on to Finalist standing. They are as follows:

Caroline Bank, Rachel Bishop, Paul Bissonnette, Joseph Brehm, Aaron Buikema, Eric Cochrame, Malcolm Edgerton, Phillip Kemp Bohan, Aimee Lucido, Jonathan Margoliah, Elisabeth Morant, Jaya Sah, Donald Traubert, Rachel Turner, Max Wagner, Max Wittels and Ethel Yang.

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U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009



"When I came to U-High, I did not anticipate having such close encounters with the U. of C. It makes me feel as though I am part of a significant learning institution."
—Thomas Healy, freshman

Six months later, newcomers size up U-High, finding they got a few surprises

By Jonathan Reed
Midway reporter

Newcomers to U-High have found many of their expectations met during their first six months here, but also have found a few surprises.

Forty-eight students arrived last fall: 35 freshmen, four sophomores and nine juniors.

THE NEW U-Highers said they expected impossibly difficult classes and an unbearable homework load. Instead, they discovered challenging, but manageable assignments and a surprisingly inviting environment.

Freshman Carol Guzman, who attended Carl Von Linne Ele Public School on the Northwest Side for her elementary and middle school years, anticipated a demanding academic program that would produce little success for her.

But she found that her teachers and classmates have helped her meet the challenge.



Carol Guzman

"I was expecting rigorous classes where I would get terrible grades and struggle tremendously, but I have realized that it is possible to overcome the workload and be an excellent student,"

Carol explained. "Because I attend University High, I feel as though for the first time in my life I can truly call my school a second home."

AFTER GRADUATING from the Ariel Community Academy on 46th street, Freshman Myles Gage expected a significant homework load that he ultimately found manageable.

"I definitely needed time to adjust to the large workload," Myles said. "I was hit hard when I first came in because of the amount of time I needed for assignments. 'Yet I found that it is doable. I have good contact with the teachers and interactions with them are easy if I have a problem or question. I didn't expect the teachers to be so passionate in wanting me to succeed.'"

Leaving the British School of Chicago following his sophomore year because of a class size of only three other students, Junior Aaron Lichter believed that the Lab Schools campus would be small with limited buildings, but realized that the layout was expansive



Aaron Lichter

us with the great freedom to explore the large campus setting.

"**I DIDN'T** anticipate that this school would have such wide buildings with rooms that are not crammed for space. I love this non vertical campus structure that provides such a great learning environment for me."

Following her elementary and middle school years at Haines school in Chinatown, Freshman Michelle Ng did not anticipate she would soon know so many students or that she could balance her academics while pursuing her own interests.



Michelle Ng

"I have found a way to show my personal side through the debate team at U-High."

"Before coming to University High School, I felt that I would be too absorbed and focused with schoolwork and I would not be able to show that other side of me. Now, I am happy that I can enjoy myself."

AFTER LEAVING the Saint Stephen's school in Rome, Italy when her family moved to Chicago last summer, Sophomore Delia Privitera expected she would have a difficult time adjusting to a new school in a new country. Before joining the sophomore class here, she had only lived one year in the United States.



Delia Privitera

"Although I came from a school in Rome where the primary language of instruction was English, Italian was certainly the predominant language throughout my daily life. I might not be as good at English as I would like, but I did not have to worry because the other students here are welcoming and make me feel as though I belong."

and to his liking.

"I could not believe the actual size of the entire Lab campus," Aaron said. "It is such an open environment and fortunately University

High School provides

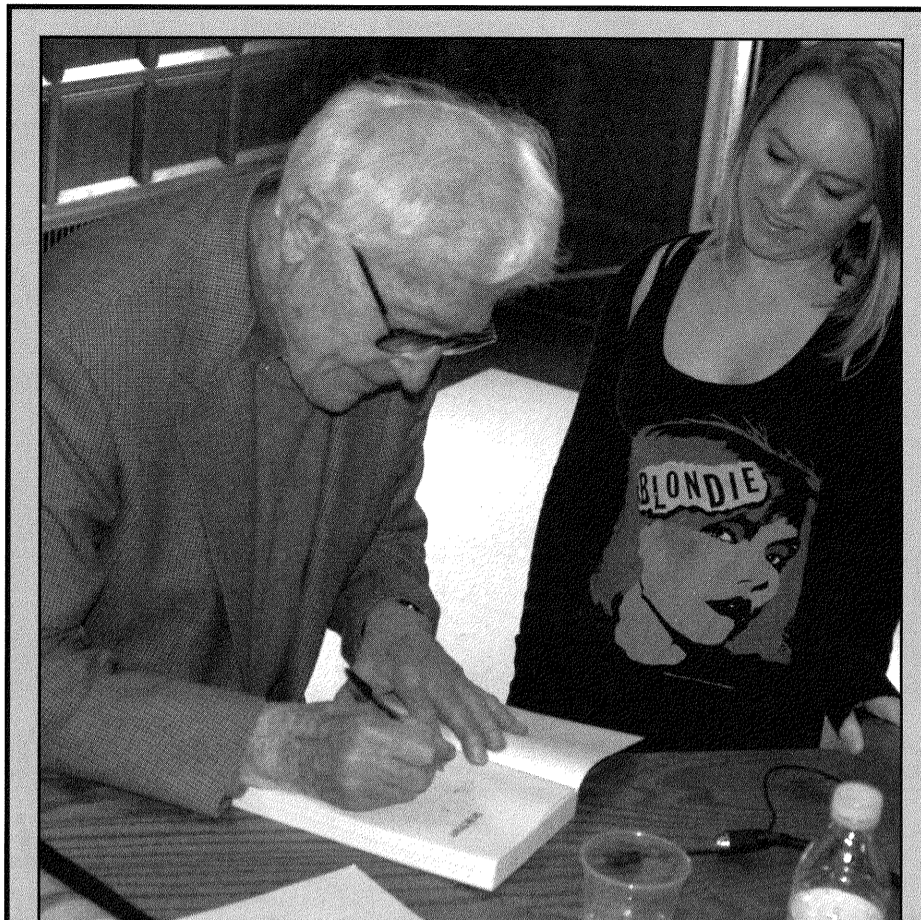


Photo by Emily Chiu

LIVING HISTORY IN PHOTOGRAPHY

"I'M NOT a photographer. Everyone thinks I am because I work with the great ones, but really I only carry a camera during war times."

So said internationally-famed photo editor John Morris, 1933 U-High graduate who spoke January 28 to Photojournalism and Journalism students. In Chicago from Paris, where he lives, Mr. Morris, 93, has been overseeing his photo collection at Regenstein Library.

In a brown suit and bright orange sweater, with his trademark wild snow white hair, Mr. Morris narrated a slide show of the greatest news photographs that he worked with from Life Magazine, the Washington Post, the New York Times and more. He took his audience on a journey beginning with World War I and concluded with photos from President Obama's campaign rallies. In the photo with Mr. Morris is Junior Page Redding.

'Connections' returns to Pier, will benefit Schools expansion

By Benny Wah
Midway reporter

For the second consecutive year the annual Parents' Association "Connections" benefit will come alive in the enormous, window-lined Grand Ballroom of Navy Pier, overlooking Lake Michigan, 6 p.m.-midnight Saturday, April 18.

The black-tie optional evening will offer a elegant and exciting experience including a gourmet dinner, music from the U-High Jazz Band, dancing, a silent auction and a raffle. The evening will get off to a bubbly start with cocktails.

Art by students will be exhibited and students will give musical performances.

This year's event will benefit projects associated with the Lab Schools'

capital campaign for expansion and improvements.

Last year's "Connections," attended by 850 people, raised \$530,000 for financial aid, education programs including Fine Arts and health, and cafeteria equipment for the food service operation.

"This year's theme is 'Growing our Dreams' in the spirit of growing Lab and reaching our community's dreams," said Ms. Carol Rubin, co-chairperson with Ms. Debbie Green and Ms. Peggy Lim.

"Some of the special features this year are a fantastic High School and Middle School art exhibit, the first on-line auction where all our auction items will be previewed and a select group will be auctioned only on-line and, finally, a fantastic, giant tree that will bloom through a magical student performance at 'Connections' with leaves, birds and fruits purchased by the Lab community.

"This beautiful tree will symbolize how our individual efforts will come together as one to help grow our dreams."

Valet parking will be available at entrance #2 to the Pier's 1,750 space parking facility.

Tickets for the evening can be purchased for \$175 through a mailed invitation, or by phoning at 773-702-0578, or by FAX at 773-834-1831 by April 2.

Financial aid programs for students are always among "Connections" beneficiaries, Ms. Rubin noted, with a quarter of the proceeds usually marked for that purpose.

School plans new survey of some parents

By Andrew Zheng
Midway reporter

A survey of Lab Schools parents of 1st-, 5th-, 9th- and 12th- graders — transition grades between the Lower, Middle and High Schools — is scheduled for the school webpage late this year or early next year. The survey will gather parents' opinions on subjects including academic programs, use of technology, May Project and class size.

Lab Schools Director David Magill originated the idea of a new parent survey after a survey provided by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States last year failed to generate enough information, Princip

pal Matthew Horvat told the Midway. That survey was part of an ISACS school evaluation of the Lab Schools, part of a program member schools participate in every seven years.

The new survey is being created by Independent School Management, a company which supplies school management research and strategy.

"There was a very low return rate for the ISACS survey," Mr. Horvat explained. "Mr. Magill brought up the fact that the results were not statistically valid, considering the low number of people that responded, and he thought this was because the survey was very long, as well as not specific to us — it included many questions that didn't apply to Lab."

"Mr. Kole was a really enjoyable speaker. He knew his trade and was even able to point out a few corrections that needed to be made in our textbook."
-Isabella Prenta, junior



From page one **7**

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

Latinos in the U-High community

(continued from front page)

someplace in Puerto Rico, then they know what I'm talking about.

"I think one of the main reasons there aren't very many Latinos at Lab is that Latinos don't really know about it, also there is the issue of scholarships, and how only a certain number of people can get them, and stuff like that.

"I think scholarships tend to have a big influence on minority populations like this."

A LIFELONG Chicagoan, World Languages Teach Becky Lopez has spent most of her life traveling between Mexico and Chicago. One of nine Latino teachers at the Lab Schools, Ms. Lopez feels a sense of disconnection between herself and other faculty members.

"When I worked at UIC, there was a community of people that were the same as me." Ms. Lopez explained at her clustered desk. "I felt that those people were my group.

"At the faculty level, I don't feel I have that here. The concerns me with kids that go here. Can they feel Mexican with the Mexican group? There is something to be said about having affinity groups.

"It has never been clear to me what efforts they are

using to get Latino students. I wish it were they were more transparent with how they go about it.

"We have a really huge Latino population in Chicago. Why don't we have more? There are a lot of families that have money and might choose to send their child to a local school because they don't know Lab is an option."

ATTENDING CONFERENCES at primarily Latino schools this past Fall, Lab Schools Admissions Director William Newman, who came here this year, said he is focusing his recruitment efforts on outreach and making the Lab Schools more visible throughout Chicago.

"This is my first year here and I'm still getting my arms around some issues." Mr. Newman said. We're still in the process of identifying the right fit.

"I'm not just looking for a Latino student because they are Latino. By choice, there are some families that are more comfortable sending their child to a Catholic school.

"I would like to see the University make more of an effort to get faculty from Latino and African American population. It's not just about recruiting students, it's about recruiting trustees, administrators, and faculty. It's a holistic approach."

Living in two different worlds

(continued from front page)

people in America have probably never heard of. We have to sleep under bed nets at night, to protect us from the bugs," Brenda said.

"Another big difference is the water there isn't always safe to drink. My family has to buy gallons of water for household use. There are large tubs everywhere to collect and sanitize rain water for public use."

Twenty-six years ago, Freshman Catherine Yunis' father, David, followed his brothers and journeyed

from Colombia to the U.S. to attend graduate school at the University of Michigan.

"We go back to Columbia every summer to visit my relatives on my dad's side. It's the only time I really get to see them.

"I wouldn't say I'm fluent in Spanish. But from talking and interacting with relatives, I can get by," Catherine explained. "My Dad still likes to keep a lot of Spanish music around the house. I considered taking salsa lessons but I just didn't have the time for it."

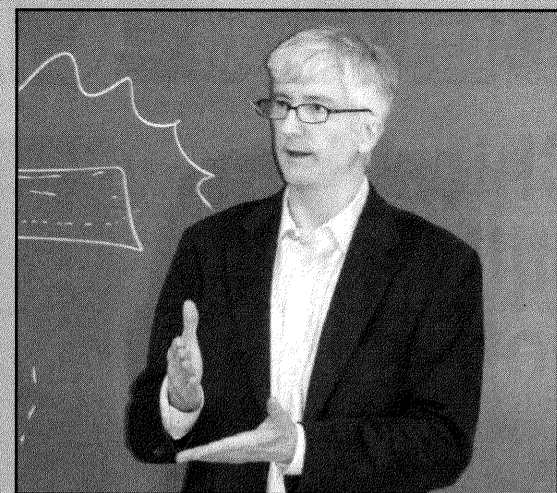


Photo by Rachel Turner

MONEY TALK

OFFERING REAL world applications of anti-trust policies, Jim Kole, father of Junior Loren, spoke to Mr. Chris Janus' A.P. Economics class January 23. Mr. Kole is the Bureau Chief of the Consumer Fraud Division for the Attorney General of Illinois

Summer school offers U-High courses

Latin 1, Geometry and Phys Ed will be offered to U-Highers in Summer School this year; enrollment deadline is April 30.

U-Highers can also participate in courses titled "Cycling Chicago," which explore the city's bike paths and teach bike care; "Trial by Jury," which will include a mock trial of impeachment of President Andrew Johnson; and "Improv Fundamentals," which will conclude with a comedy show.

"Our program is mostly taught and coached by U-High faculty," said Director of Auxiliary Programs Ned Reece. "Lab Schools students tend to set the bar high, and the teachers deliver to that standard. "U-High students are intriguing individuals, so we have to be imaginative and provocative when developing courses for the summer program."



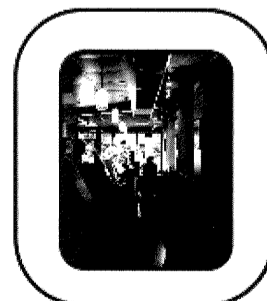
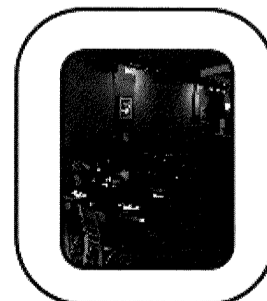
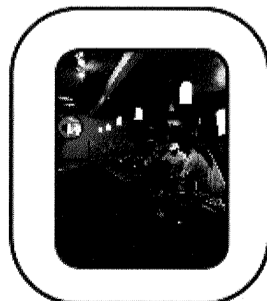
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SEGREGATION AND VIOLENCE

Chicago still hasn't gotten itself together

By Gabriel Bump

Editor-in-Chief

and

Alex Zimmer

Contributing writer

The Number Six Jackson Park Express rounds the bend westward on Wacker Drive, en route toward State Street one recent February evening.

Now empty the bus starts its journey south. Familiar to many U-Highers, this route provides an efficient connection between downtown and Hyde Park.

A SMALL CLUSTER of people waits at the corner, briefcases and shopping bags in hand. Some nod their heads to music flowing through earphones, while others stare wearily eyed at the street before them.

In a few moments, the crowd will fill the bus and turn left onto State Street.

The late evening shadows of tall buildings slide over the bus as it moves south on State, occasionally stopping to pick up new travelers.

LIGHTS FROM department stores, office buildings and electrical signs illuminate the commuters' faces.

African American, Caucasian, Asian, Hispanic, Latino.

All colors and hues are represented here.

Upon reaching Balbo, the bus heads east towards Columbus on its way to Lake Shore Drive. Each stop rotating the menagerie of faces. The bus makes its way to 47th and Lake Park and continues stopping throughout Hyde Park.

BUT AS the bus nears its final destination, 79th and South Shore Drive, a different story unfolds.

Driving down Stony Island, somewhere between 59th and 63rd, the spectrum of colors disappears.

African American travelers find themselves alone.

HOURS FROM NOW, when the sun brightens the sky once more, the cycle renews.

South Side residents gather at bus stops, such as the one on 67th and Jeffery, some heading downtown to their jobs.

Her whole life, Gwen Moore, has taken the number 14 bus route downtown, which intersects with the



IN THE RACIALLY AND ETHNICALLY diverse Boys Town-East Lakeview neighborhood, Reporters Alex Zimmer and Gabe Bump traveled around Chicago as far north as Melrose Avenue and as far south as 77th Street for their story

about segregation in Chicago through the eyes of people living it. Photographer Jeremy Handrup accompanied them. Here, Gabe and Alex speak with Andrea, a saleswoman at Reckless Records, 3161 North Broadway.

number six on 67th.

SHE LIVES on 98th and Jeffery Avenue with her husband of 38 years. But she has lived a nomadic life, residing in many locations around the South Side.

Each time she witnesses the same themes: violence, drug abuse and poverty.

Sitting and facing rows of shaking dryers and washers, on a recent February night at the Fabricare Super Laundromat on 76th and Jeffery, Mrs. Moore recounted tales of isolated change.

"BUSINESSES AND SCHOOLS have gotten better," she explained.

"Our alderman, Sandi Jackson, has brought a lot of businesses to the south side. I wouldn't call it segregation, I think it's just racism. I've raised two boys here. And they finished school, and turned out well. Both of them, thank god, haven't experienced serious racism."

"Over there, at South Shore High School," she

shakes her head while fiddling the buttons on her worn fur coat. "I see kids fighting every day. There are always cops outside. And I just wonder why? Why are you doing this?"

ON THE OTHER SIDE of the city, Boys Town-East Lakeview, a North Side neighborhood centered around Belmont and Broadway, serves as a model for integration.

As snow fell last Wednesday night, residents of Boys Town escaped into the restaurants and stores lining Broadway. Many of these businesses witnessing the neighborhood change but always remaining loyal to diversity.

Rushing plates of food to an eagerly awaiting couple, Lily Chou recounts how far the neighborhood has come since she arrived at the New Peking Restaurant, a block south of Belmont, 20 years ago.

"WHEN I MOVED to Chicago from South Korea, there were already all kinds of people living here. But there were a lot of drugs."

"The neighborhood has come a long way; it's much better now. But the diversity hasn't changed."



AT FABRICARE SUPER LAUNDROMAT, 7633 South Jeffery Boulevard, in the largely African American South Side neighborhood South Shore, Gabe and Alex talked with Gwen Moore. They were on the South Side last Monday.



HEARING the story of a woman who moved from South Korea to Boys Town-East Lakeview, Gabe and Alex talked to Lily Chou, an employee at New Peking Restaurant, 3132 North Broadway. They spoke to Ms. Chou last Wednesday.



"THIS IS CERTAINLY different from the South Side," Alex observes as the boys stroll on the North Side. Turning towards him as they walked down Broadway in the Boys Town-East Lakeview neighborhood, Gabe responded: "Yeah. This sure ain't 79th."

"Chicago is a great city. There may be some segregation within some communities but certainly not like some other places in America."
— Farris Naoum, senior

CE IN A DIVIDED CITY

■ Segregation and violence within Chicago have existed for decades. Here the Midway explores the problems the South Side has faced, how such problems can be solved and recounts stories about the city's past and hopes for the future.

Two lives intertwined with the history and lore of Chicago's fabled (and segregated) South Side

By Tom Stanley-Becker
Editor-in-Chief

Charles Branham lived the first eight years of his life in Bronzeville, which was and still is one of Chicago's most racially segregated neighborhoods. Frances Moore-Bond grew up in Englewood, a South Side neighborhood which remains predominantly African American.

A U.S. and African American history teacher and the Black Students' Association adviser, respectively, Mr. Branham and Ms. Moore-Bond spoke to the Midway about their experiences and offered insights about where Chicago stands and where it is going.

ATTENDING ROCKFORD College and then earning his PhD from the University of Chicago, Mr. Branham taught at many Chicago area universities and worked as a historian at the DuSable Museum of Afro-American History before coming to U-High in 1989.

Ms. Moore-Bond earned a degree in education from the University of Minnesota. Coming to the Lab Schools in 1988, she attended Chicago State and Northeastern Illinois Universities.

Later he returned to Chicago during the summers between his college years and for graduate school. As a child, Mr. Branham attended Stephen Douglas Elementary School.

"I WAS BORN at 31st and South Parkway," said Mr. Branham, who now lives south of Hyde Park. "Bronzeville was the entryway of the black community during the Great Migration. It was called the Black Belt. It has been gentrified for several reasons. Blacks don't want to leave the city."

"They want to find a more upscale neighborhood but not downtown. They had to tear down the Robert Taylor Homes in order

to create a middle-class neighborhood. In the 1970s, the problem was crime. The strength of Bronzeville is that it is a middle class black community. You had to find a way to create homes within a shorter distance to the lake, that is an amenity people are paying for. You need to create an ethnic enclave with shops and restaurants.

"NOT MANY neighborhoods will have access to the Lake, upscale shopping and cultural institutions."

Living in a mostly black neighborhood of Englewood on the city's Southwest Side and now living in Hyde Park, Ms. Moore-Bond only heard about discrimination during her childhood.

"My family life was good," she said. "I went to elementary school at a school called Copernicus. It was primarily African-American. I grew up in a middle class family. My parents told me about discrimination. I did not experience much of it."

"A LOT OF TEACHERS in my school were white. I was never mistreated or discriminated against by them. It was pretty much all right to live in a primarily black neighborhood. There were individuals in my church who were white. All my experience was secondhand through my parents and their friends."

Mr. Branham first experienced racism while working during the summer in Chicago.

"I grew up in Memphis," Mr. Branham said. "My parents divorced when I was 8. My father was born in Chicago and grew up here. My mother was born in Memphis. My father stayed in Chicago. I think I saw my father twice between the ages of 8 and 18. When I

first came back to Chicago during the summers between my college years, I lived with my father at about 500 East on 75th Street. I was working in factories on the West Side. I was living in the back room of my father's apartment.

"I WAS BORN in Chicago but did not grow up here. I did not return until the summer after my freshman year. My father had to bribe the employment facilitator to get us a job. The understanding was that I would work the three months and then would be fired. This was to make sure I wouldn't join a union. This was the summer of 1964."

A witness to housing discrimination in the late 1960s, Mr. Branham said, "Chicago was very strictly segregated while I was in college. 'Chicago maintained its segregation through violence. If you moved into the wrong neighborhood, you were in trouble. There were race riots, principally about housing."

"I REMEMBER I went to visit a white friend from college living in Cicero. I took a bus from 75th and Cottage Grove to Cicero. My friend still marvels that I got away alive. People have gotten beaten up simply for being blacks and being in the wrong neighborhoods. Neighborhoods such as Bridgeport and Marquette Park were known as places where blacks could be assaulted just for being there. This was 1967."

Segregation in housing on the South Side has provided some unintended benefits, Ms. Moore-Bond notes.

"There are some perks," she said. "You know people in your neighborhood.



MR. CHARLES BRANHAM



Photos taken for 2006 U-Highlights
MS. FRANCES MOORE-BOND

They are similar to you. But it goes the reverse way as well. I can't say segregation is better or worse. To some extent, my neighborhood was integrated. The South Side is a nice place to live but there are housing and poverty issues and more money is needed for schooling. To me, this is no different than living in any another place in Chicago."

Getting to the heart of violence to find a cure

By Adrian Aldana
Midway reporter

"Violence is like a disease. The only way we can reverse it is to treat it like a disease: work with one person at a time."

To Mr. Tio Hardiman, former director of gang mediation and community organizing and current director of Ceasefire Illinois, and the rest of the Ceasefire staff, working at a grassroots level in the community can address the shooting and killings in Chicago.

CEASEFIRE, AN initiative of the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention, was initiated in 2000 to tackle Chicago violence at the street level, particularly shootings.

Founded in 1995 by Mr. Gary Slutkin, executive director, the Chicago Project of Violence Prevention (CPVP) is headquartered at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health, east of the CTA Pink line in an urban scenic area of scattered factories, brick buildings and cosmopolitan restaurants, in the vicinity of Taylor and Ashland.

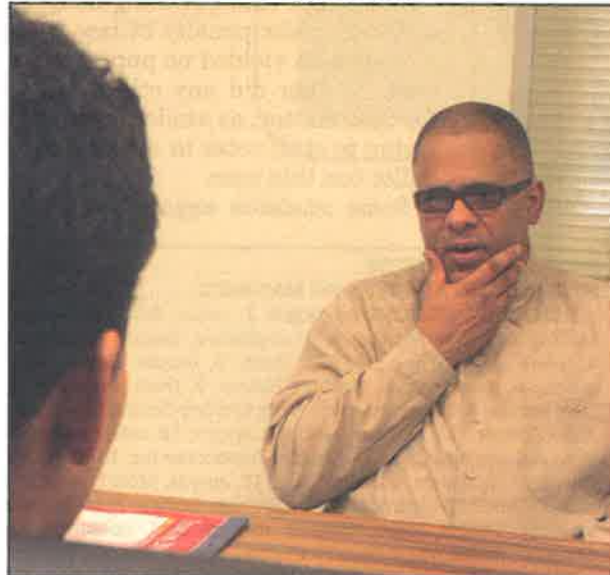
Through street-level outreach, faith leader involvement, police participation, public education, and community mobilization, Ceasefire aims to reach individuals most prone to become involved in shootings, instigator and victim, as mentioned on their website. Attempting to influence the behavior and thinking of susceptible adolescents, Ceasefire's outreach workers and violence interrupters, streetwise, former gang-related individuals, establish relationships with community youths to mediate and prevent violent conflicts, according to the organization's website. They also persuade people to pursue educational and job options instead of using violence.

AS THE director of Illinois Ceasefire, Ceasefire at the state level, Mr. Hardiman oversees communities, meets with

government representatives, and hires potential outreach workers and violence interrupters.

"We at Ceasefire try to change behavior," Mr. Hardiman, wearing a tan button down shirt and glasses, said in an interview in his small office with photographs of Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, and Nelson Mandela. "Most people think violence is okay; that it's the norm. Violence begets more violence. It's harder to turn away from violence than it is to act on it."

According to a May 2008, evaluation on Ceasefire by the United States Department of Justice, of the



MR. TIO HARDIMAN
Director of Illinois Ceasefire
being interviewed by Adrian Aldana

41-73 percent decrease in shootings and killings in "Ceasefire zones", communities working with Ceasefire, Ceasefire is accredited for causing 16-35 percent of that drop.

IN JANUARY, according to CLEARMap, the Chicago Police Department crimemapping website, about 2 percent of city crime came from Humboldt Park and about 3 percent from both Logan Square and Gresham; all three neighborhoods are "Ceasefire zones".

Chicago violence can be reduced, but some methods don't attack the issue, Mr. Hardiman said.

"Money isn't the answer. You have to change the mindset; that's the answer. You can give money, but the mind doesn't change."

"SOME SOCIAL programs can help, but you have people who don't want to change. If you got guys like that, time will change them."

"All this stuff runs its course. Once it runs its course, it goes down."

Besides confronting community shootings from the grassroots level, federal action towards violence would tremendously help, Mr. Hardiman believes.

"THE GOVERNMENT can back Barack Obama's stimulus plan. We have to create a working atmosphere.

"People need to work instead of getting involved in drugs and violence. We have to galvanize the forces of the people."

"There needs to be a top-down approach to sway the masses to work for the right thing and themselves."

Photos by Jeremy Handrup

Diversity lies in the eyes of the beholder

People say Hyde Parkers live in a bubble. The University of Chicago provides a magnet for intellectuals and open-minded people. As a result Hyde Park boasts an impressively diverse community, especially considering Chicago's rich history of racial segregation.

Unavoidably the Lab Schools is included in this bubble. Intellectuals, diversity and all.

Even the 2009-2010 Program of Studies states that U-High has a 35 percent minority student body, a particularly impressive figure given the rampant segregation in the city.

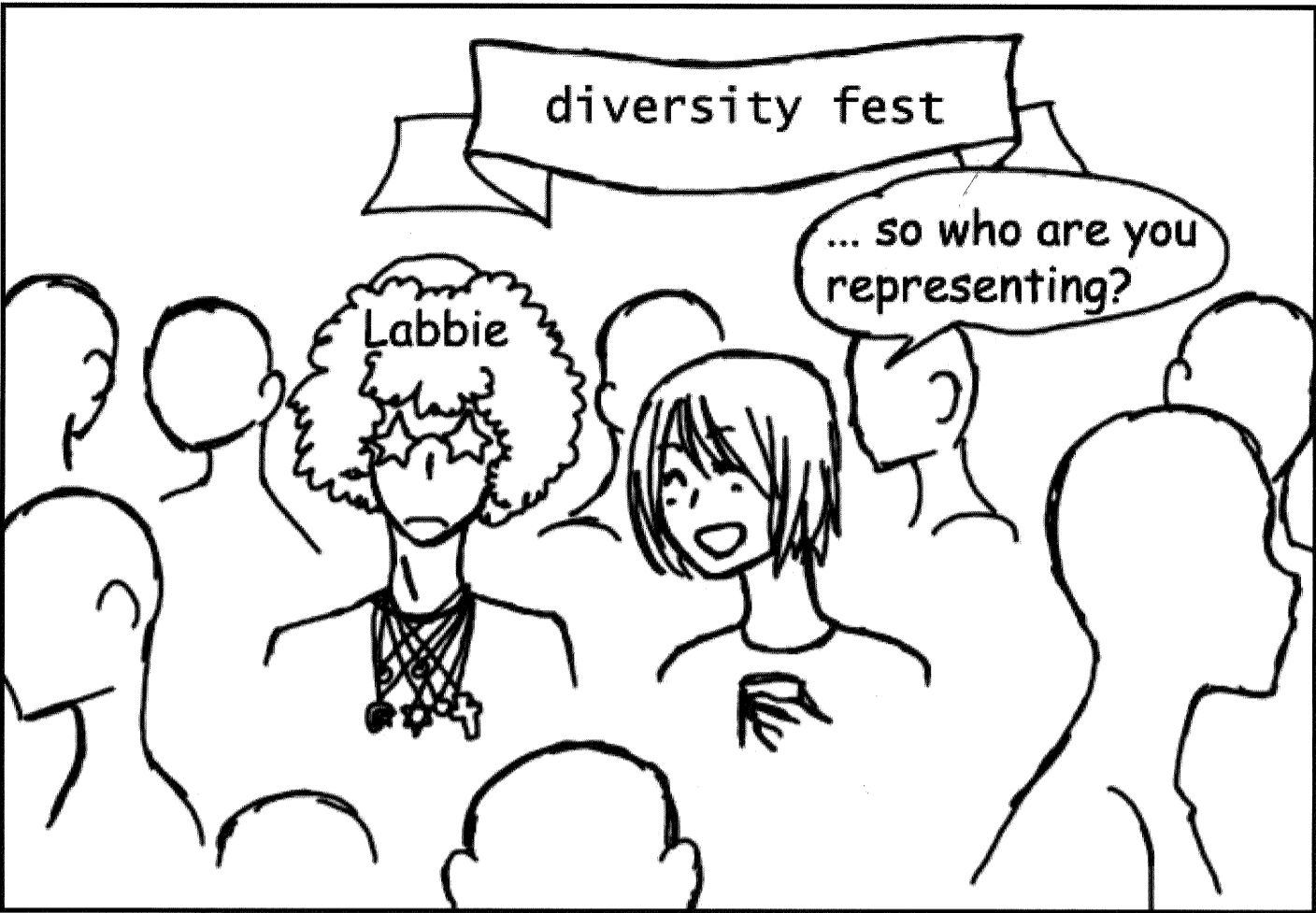
Still, insufficient diversity remains a constant hot topic in the Lab Schools community, especially regarding U-High.

For example, the Diversity Task Force, a joint student, faculty and parent committee, has been evaluating the state and needs of the school community.

But for U-High students, diversity is largely a non-issue.

Maybe it's a result of being in the Hyde Park bubble, but many U-Highers believe the school is diverse enough already, if they even think about diversity at all.

When the subject does arise, as in countless Peer Leading sessions, as-



Art by Becky Fox

semblies or classes, students generally feel frustrated by the seemingly redundant talk. It seems confusing that members of the Lab community continue to invest time, energy and money into diversity initiatives.

Somewhere, a disconnect has grown between what students are experiencing and what others believe they are experiencing.

Meanwhile, some student groups have turned their attention to the city at large, attempting to cross community boundaries and connect high school students around Chicago with other ethnic groups.

Among these initiatives, Flava Fest encourages an open forum of communication for high school students throughout the city to create mutual

understanding and respect among different ethnic groups. Plus organizations such as the Black Students' Association sponsor ethnic lunches and other activities to showcase heritage and further cultural understanding.

We've bridged the gaps within our school. Perhaps now we must pop the bubble and work to bridge the gaps within our city.

SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Denise Akuamoah

You are walking in the Loop and three young guys come up to you and ask directions to Navy Pier. You suddenly realize you are talking with the Jonas Brothers. What is your next move?



Jolisha

JOLISHA JOHNSON, freshman: I would laugh at them and tell them that they are the worst singers in the world. They sound like dying cats and they need better vocals. Then I would give them the wrong directions.



Shacara

SHACARA LEDBETTER, sophomore: I would ask them

why their driver did not drop them off there in the first place and then I would ask them if they wanted to have ice cream with me. Then I would order a lot of ice cream and leave without giving them directions because I know they have iPhones that can give them directions.

KAIA TAMMEN, junior: Even though I really do not care for



Kaia

the Jonas Brothers, I would probably ask them to sing me a song and then I would give them directions to Navy Pier.

ANDREJ ROSIC, senior: I'd run away and get some sharp, sharp scissors and then poke my eyes out because of the burn from their psychosocial faces.



Andrej

OPINION KYLE BRUNKE

For the turkeys who tried to stuff

IN THE LAND of Lincoln, a place where honesty seems acceptable in name only, some U-Highers decided to forego any revolution during Formal election and did their best Rod Blagojevich impression.

The Thursday before Formal, two students continuously attempted to perform their version of the electoral process.

Ballot stuffing – the casting of multiple ballots during a vote in which only one ballot per person is allowed – presented an all too obvious way for a possible scam.

And so it provided the foundation for their every attempt. In turn, the students monitoring the voting stopped them during each occurrence.

Some might interpret the two students' apparent lack of moral understanding as evidence for their disregarding truth, justice and the American way. If high school provides the necessary tools for entry into the adult world, then life after U-High seems pretty bleak.

To be sure, ballot stuffing merits a certain scolding under penalty of law, but the Formal election yielded no punishment whatsoever. Neither did any other school election for that matter, as students observed others trying to stuff votes in almost every U-High ballot box this year.

Some students appear to never entirely

grasp the idea of a balanced election, often doing away with the possibility of an equal vote for all.

Which, I personally believe, is how it should be. This is high school, after all and it doesn't take a detailed analysis to explain the implications of such an environment. Until the day arrives when actions are taken place against those daring enough to hamper a school election, little can be done to deter any attempts at ballot stuffing.

When concerning college enrollment, its effect can be devastating. Losing an election echoes the possibility of admission denial from colleges who value school leadership as basis for accep-

tance – not the case with Formal election, I hope. So, in order to try to explain the validity of election fraud, I'll end with my best Sean Connery impression and try to replicate his impassioned speech on dealing with Al Capone in the 1987 film "The Untouchables."

They stuff two ballots, you stuff three. He sends one of yours to the trash receptacle, you send one of his to the burner.

That's truth, justice and the high school way.



Kyle

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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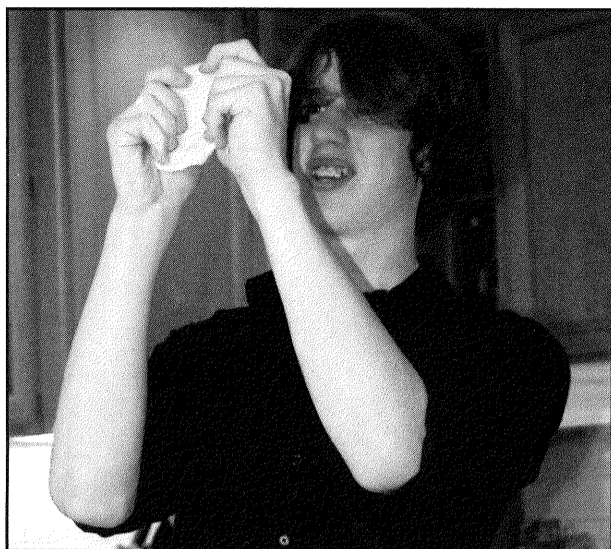
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COOKING WITH NICK CHASKIN



THE WINDOW TEST is necessary to determine the perfect consistency of your pizza dough.



USING DIFFERENT ingredients to garnish your pizza adds a hint of personality to every creation.



MAKING SURE the edges are folded completely around is critical to achieving a perfect pizza.

Photos by Kendall Gordon

Tackling pizza at home on the range

THERE'S A REAL problem in America: the acceptance of sub-par food. Boxed macaroni and cheese and frozen dinners make up far too much of the American diet. Sure, they are convenient, but with a little extra time, a little planning ahead and little bit of effort you can make the same dishes a hundred times superior in taste.

Frozen pizza tops the list of sub-par food products, with its doughy, spongy crust, tasteless cheese and ketchup for sauce. We should really be making our own.

The secret to great pizza lies in the crust. Although making your own crust takes a little time and effort than store-bought crusts, the results prove shockingly superior.

The trick is getting a crispy, slightly chewy crust that stands up to any topping thrown at it. This requires using two things, gluten and protein.

For the dough you will need:

2 tablespoons of sugar



Nick

1 tablespoon of kosher salt
1 tablespoon of olive oil
¾ cups warm water
2 cups bread flour
1 teaspoon of instant yeast

Bread flour contains two percent more protein than all-purpose flour. The extra protein bonds with the gluten, creating a crust with the perfect balance of crispiness and softness.

To begin your dough, combine the salt, sugar, water, yeast, olive oil and one cup of flour into the bowl of a stand mixer. Equip the stand mixer with the dough hook attachment, slightly lubed with olive oil. The dough hook has the same effect as kneading dough by hand.

Begin kneading with the hook on low speed, adding the remaining flour in slowly until a soft, slightly sticky ball forms. After 10 to 15 minutes, the gluten to keep the dough from tearing will have activated. Tear off a small piece of dough, stretch it over your thumbs and hold up to a light. If the dough stretches thin enough to let light through, you have reached your kneading destination. This is called the win-

dow test (see figure one).

Remove the dough, seal it in plastic wrap and refrigerate at least over night.

When the appropriate time has passed remove the dough from your fridge, form it into a tight ball and cover for 30 minutes on a counter. Then, in the middle rack of a cold oven, place a pizza stone (available online for under \$20) and preheat to 500 degrees.

Divide the dough in two equal parts. Roll out the first half into a circle about six inches in diameter, then with one hand in the center of the circle and pull the edge out. Go around the circle like this several times; you're trying to get as thin a crust as possible.

On a pizza peel (or the back of a cookie sheet sprinkled with bit of cornmeal), place your crust and cover with your favorite tomato sauce and the toppings of your choosing.

Slide it off the peel and onto your pizza stone before cooking for 12-15 minutes. Cut and serve warm. You only need a bit of planning ahead to replace those frozen circles of cheese on bread with a real, authentic pizza.

FILM JULIE CARLSON

This is one 'Class' you shouldn't cut

A TEACHER STRUGGLES with a small paycheck and his unruly, uninterested teenage students who live in a bad part of town. This plot may sound unbearably cliché, but it is brilliantly executed in "The Class," nominated for Best Foreign-Language Film in this year's Oscar competition.

The French film, based on an eponymous book by Francois Begaudeau (who also wrote the screenplay and stars in the main role), won the prestigious Palme d'Or award at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival. Still, it has not proven a financial success in the States. Aside from the seemingly cheesy plotline, Begaudeau and the direc-



Julie

tor are largely unknown to American audiences. The U.S. release also employs subtitles instead of dubbing, perhaps deterring lazy moviegoers. Plus, it's a fictional work bizarrely shot like a documentary, complete with shaky camerawork.

But "The Class" does everything so beautifully these shortcomings hardly matter. Each element within it feels heartwarming, genuine, likely because it was based upon Beagaudeau's semi-autobiographical tale. And with no other acting credits, he manages to express his emotions as empathetically as any Hollywood veteran.

His students, played by real teenagers



THE SEMIAUTOBIOGRAPHICAL story of former teacher Francois Begaudeau (portraying his fictional alter-ego Francois Marin) enhances the believability of his self-written screenplay, "The Class."

instead of foreign child stars, fare just as well – and occasionally better.

When they deal with believable racial and religious issues, they fittingly do not receive any glossed over, sugarcoated results.

The struggles the students face may be unknown to many U-Highers, yet the students of "The Class" act so engagingly and intimately these issues become surprisingly relatable.

Ultimately, "The Class" does not prove depressing or disheartening, even though it covers difficult topics. Instead, it provides a refreshingly accurate reflection of school, life and what happens when the two collide.

MUSIC SAM FRAMPTON

Have this 'Konducta' show you some beats

SNIPPETS OF vintage soul coupled with a West Coast hip hop vibe emulate the late J Dilla's sound in Madlib's new instrumental album "The Beat Konducta Volume 5-6: A Tribute To..." (Stonethrow).

Instrumental albums generally have remained a consistent disappointment in the hip hop industry. The few notable exceptions to this rule include veteran beatmaker Madlib's "Beat Konducta" series, now in its third incarnation as "The Beat Konducta Volume 5-6."

Since his 1993 debut with the Lootpack, Madlib has endured as a stalwart of hip hop's underground. His 43 solo releases include remix albums, a mysterious rapping alter ego named Quasimoto, and his most successful album, "Madvillainy," a collaboration with rapper MF Doom.

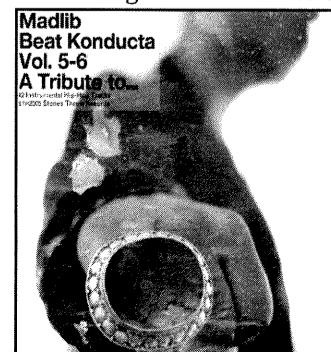
Though fragments from Dilla interviews and his trademark loose drum patterns supply a strong thematic undercurrent for the program, "Beat Konducta Volume 5-6" proves itself classic Madlib material. The 42 sparse, abstract beats work as brief vignettes, moving hastily between moods from the light and celestial sound of "Floating Soul (Peace)" to the bass heavy thump of "In Jah Hands (Dilla's Lament)."

In true Madlib fashion, he holds the tracks together – if a little shabbily – with sampled speech from obscure movies and classic rap songs.

Like any instrumental CD, "Beat Konducta Volume 5-6" is a daunting task for the casual listener, but proves rewarding after a few listens. The productions showcase careful craftsmanship largely absent from today's hip hop scene. Hardcore hip hop fans will find it an instant head nodder.



Sam



Latest schedule proposal keeps five-day rotation, extends class minutes

By Gabriel Bump
Editor-in-Chief

After nearly two years of discussing a new schedule for U-High, the faculty reached an agreement at its meeting earlier this month: they're going to keep discussing.

During its meeting next Tuesday, the faculty will continue to examine a five-day rotation. The five-day schedule offers classes meeting four times a week with each class receiving one double period a week.

The proposed schedule would also increase contact time between teachers and students by 1,000 minutes for each period, per year, says Computer Science Teacher Baker Franke, faculty cochairperson with World Languages Teacher Marianne Zemil.

In a rotating schedule classes aren't necessarily associated with times of day but rather blocks of time. For example, Period A would meet during 1st period two times a week and during 2nd twice. A student would have three different classes meet during 1st period over the course of a week.

Last year the committee proposed schedules with class cycles rotating through nine days, eight days, and six days. The nine-day consisted of classes meeting six times during the nine days, the eight-day classes met five times and the six-day classes met

four times.

For Mr. Franke, a scheduling committee member, reaching an agreement on a new schedule has proved difficult because of investments some teachers have in the current one.

"Looking at the big picture, discussions about the schedule among the faculty, or anyone who's invested in the school can become quite emotional," Mr. Franke explained. "Because a lot of what a school is, and what a school does, its identity is tied to the schedule."

"Changing the daily schedule forces us to face many fundamental and philosophical questions about who we are. For example, we recently got around to discussing how our current schedule proposal will affect student free time."

"On the one hand there is a pure numbers answer, plus-or-minus X minutes. But student free time, and how students use it, is implicitly a



"I just thought that playing music for a day and a half and nothing else is truly entertaining and enjoyable."

—Andrew Sandwick, junior

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00	A 45'	C 45'	A 45'	B 45'	C 45'
8:45					
8:50		B 75'	B 45'	A 75'	A 45'
9:35	C 75'				
9:40			C 45'		B 45'
10:05	30'	30'		50'	10'
10:25			30'		
10:35	D 45'	D 45'			D 45'
10:55					
11:20	E 45'	E 45'	D 75'	E 75'	E 45'
11:25					
12:10	Lunch 45'	Lunch 45'	Lunch 45'	Lunch 45'	Lunch 45'
12:55					
12:55	G 75'	H 75'	H 45'	G 45'	F 75'
1:40					
1:45			G 45'	F 45'	
2:10					
2:30	H 45'	F 45'			G 45'
2:35			F 45'	H 45'	
3:00					
3:20					

huge part of the school's educational philosophy.

"Most faculty, I think, expect students to become strong independent thinkers and doers. If student free time were to decrease, what does that mean we're saying about how we value student independence? It's very difficult to navigate and emotionally and mentally taxing."

Club will continue loans aiding businesses in developing nations

By Sonya Dhindsa
Midway reporter

Extending a Middle School club into High School, Freshman Charlie Jiang has formed Futures Beginning.

The organization is conducting fundraising projects to provide loans for developing businesses into disadvantaged countries.

Meeting Mondays in U-High 303 during lunch, the club, advised and sponsored by History Teacher Chris Janus, so far consists of seven freshmen and one sophomore.

"Anyone is welcomed to join and come to the meetings during lunch," Charlie said. "In 8th grade, I was a member of Humanities Team, which is basically the Middle School version of Futures Beginning. Humanities Team only started last year and I didn't want to

stop doing it just because I was moving on to High School.

"I formed a High School version of Humanities Team this year because I enjoyed being a part of it in 8th grade"

With bake sale donations, Futures Beginning plans to donate the proceeds soon.

"We raised around \$175.

"The money will go to Kiva, which is an online service that helps people around the world who have small businesses but not enough money to continue them."

"We loan them the money and after a certain amount of time, usually a year to 18 months, they pay us back and the money is transferred into Kiva credit, which we can use to donate again to someone else."

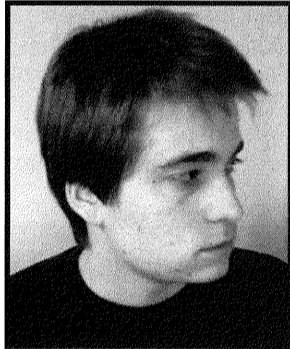


Photo by Kyra Sturgill

ANDREW SANDWICK

Clarinetist wins another honor

By Christian Cansteneda
Midway reporter

Named to the Illinois Music Educators All-State Honors Band, Junior Andrew Sandwick achieved yet another honor by being selected the top clarinetist in the All-State Band. The band played at the Illinois Music Educator's annual convention at the Peoria Civic Center January 29-31.

"The Civic Center where we performed was essentially a hockey rink, there were three different ensembles and they played on three different parts of the hockey rink," Andrew said.

"A lot of people I already new from my local youth orchestra but I also met a couple college representatives and representatives from instrument companies, but I also got to know other high school students from around the state who were sitting near me."

"I thought I did really well and it was a lot of fun. It was cool knowing that I was the first person from Lab to do it and I had a great time."

WYSE team readies for State

By Amy Feldman
Midway reporter

Preparing for the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering State competition Sunday, March 8, at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, the Olympiad Science Team has been taking exams from past years. They are aiming to win their ninth consecutive championship.

"We hope to place in the top five at the State competition this year," said Captain Abraham Kohrman, senior. "I think we'll keep our nine-year winning streak alive."

The Science Team won First Divisional Team Award at Regionals, February 3 at Kankakee Community College. They won 1st place in all categories and out of 20 awards in the division, they won 18.

Both Regional and State competitions consist of exams in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering Graphics, English, Math, and Physics. Each Science Team member took exams in two of these categories. Exams took 40 minutes apiece and ranged from 40 to 100 multiple choice questions.

Regional Awards were as follows:

BIOLOGY—1st, Sherry Fu; 2nd, Alex Penev; 3rd, Charles Du.

CHEMISTRY—1st, Aaron Buikema; 2nd, Alex Penev; 3rd, Sherry Fu.

COMPUTER SCIENCE—1st, Daniel Simmons-Marengo; 2nd, Elisabeth Morant.

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS—1st, Emily Kuo; 2nd, Abraham Kohrman.

ENGLISH—1st, Ethel Yang; 2nd, Hannah Constantin.

MATH—1st, Charles Du; 2nd, Emily Kuo; 3rd, Elisabeth Morant.

PHYSICS—1st, Aaron Buikema; 2nd, Daniel Simmons-Marengo.

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"Sitting down in a restaurant and absorbing the atmosphere is my favorite part of Little India. It's great to know there is such a large mass of people of your same culture."
—Sarah Husain, freshman



An authentic touch of India in Chicago

By Leslie Sibener
Midway reporter

Crowds of people adorned with traditional Indian clothing and Middle Eastern headscarves, bustled up and down the streets of Little India 2000 West Devon Avenue, littered with Hindi Sanskrit on the outside of Indian stores on a cold, rainy Wednesday afternoon in early February.

Located west on Devon Avenue mostly between Ravenswood and California avenues, Little India is home to 400,000 Indian and Pakistani's according to the current Chicagoland census. It harbors hundreds of traditional Indian clothing stores, handicraft shops, restaurants and markets.

WITH AT LEAST one Indian restaurant on each block, every food stop offers spicy triangular fried pastry samosa treats or milky smoothie-like mango lassie's to drink for a sit-down meal or to go.

Seated at a rectangular table in Tahora, an Indian restaurant at 2326 West Devon Avenue, Rozmin Ajance, a stylish sophomore at Northwestern University in a long sleeve pink shirt and a pony-tail, ripped off a piece of thin bread, dipped it in spicy vegetable curry as she described her experiences at Little India.

"At home I eat a lot of Indian food, so it's comforting to come down here," Rozmin said. "We come as often as we can, once or twice every few months. We really like the food and Tahora is our favorite breakfast place."

"WE NEVER have time to do anything else when we come down to this area. Usually we get in and get out. If I had more time, there are some pretty cool shops I'd like to see. I lived around here when I was younger, and

people on campus recommended us this area."

Standing out with sleek silver boarders, Sahil boutique, 2605 West Devon Avenue, sells saris, jewelry and beaded handbags.

FOR THE past two years, Kapexa has worked as a saleswoman at Sahil after returning from studying in India in July, 2006.

"The people shop here are mostly Indian and come from this area," Kapexa said. "We get a lot of bridal customers and all kinds of party wear buyers."

"The most exciting part each year is the Festival of Diwali. We decorate the store with lights, fabric and flowers. The entire block is transformed."

WITH POSTERS taped on glass windows, Al Mansoor Video, 2600 West Devon Avenue, owned by the grocery store Patel Brothers, offers Bollywood films, Indian music and Indian newspapers.

Working at Al Mansoor for eight years, Zameer said, "I'm from India and being here it feels like you are back at home. They speak the old language and eat the same foods. I've worked here for so long and live about one mile away. Working here is entertaining. The manager promotes Bollywood actors' concerts in Chicago. I'm really lucky because I get to meet all of them every day."

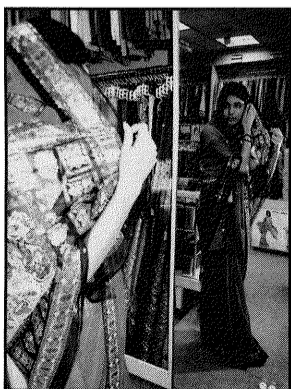


WITH INDIAN pastries, savory snacks and Indian drinks including Mithai, Bhel Puri and Thumbs Up soda, Sukhadia's, 2559 West Devon Avenue, ranks as one of the most popular restaurants and sweet stores in Little India. The nationally-known community attracts tourists alongside Chicagoans who go there to shop and dine. Leslie Sibener and Sarah Husain munch on samosas with sweet and spicy chutney and sip mango lassies.



LOOKING FOR the perfect color (photo at left), Sarah Husain selects traditional Indian chandelier earrings at India Sari Palace, 2534 West Devon Avenue.

SARAH AND Leslie Sibener (below) sample different dals, Indian food lentils and spices, at Patel Brothers, a grocery store at 2542 West Devon Avenue.

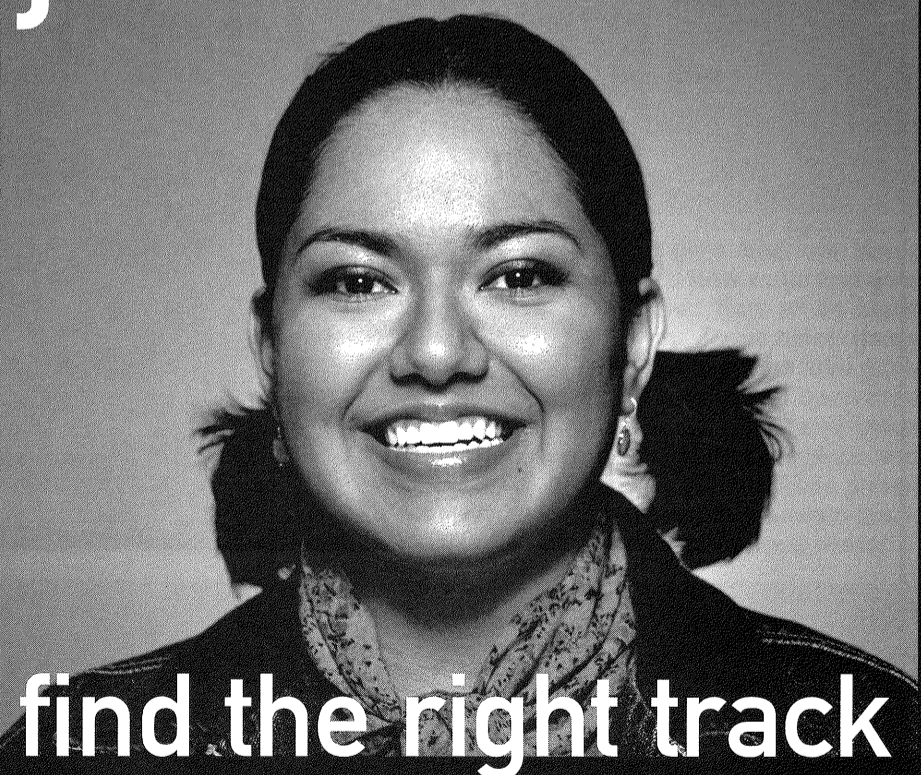


WITH TRADITIONAL (photos at left from top) Indian clothing shops on each block, Little India offers saris and other garments for girls and boys. Sarah tries on a silk embroidered sari.

SARAH AND LESLIE search for salwar kameezes, traditional Indian dresses which can be worn by men or women.

Photos by Hanna Redleaf

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"When we're performing, we try to get the audience involved and make a connection with them. We're influenced by artists that make that connection."
-Kevin Brunke, senior



Players in the Band

When good friends get together at U-High, musical magic ensues

By Katherine Holt
Midway reporter

Surrounded by couches in the cramped basement of Senior Max Budovitch's family's apartment on North Lake Shore Drive on a Sunday afternoon in early February, Max and fellow seniors Max Wagner, Kevin Brunke and Richard Tomlinson huddle over their instruments during their band "Manchild's" jam sessions.

A friendly blend

The band is among many formed by friends who share similar music interests. Several U-High bands will be performing at Artsfest tomorrow.

"Manchild," with Max Wagner on the guitar, Richard on the drums, Kevin doing vocals and Max Budovitch playing bass guitar and drums, will perform a mix of original pieces and covers at the event.

"I joined 'Manchild' about two months ago," Richard said. "I've played with jazz groups this year and last year, but this group here, we play rock. We're not a cover band like some people think. Artsfest will be our first gig this year. It'll be different. We're going to do something we've never done before."

Easy-going rehearsals

Arranging original music inspired by classic rock and composed by Max Wagner and Kevin, "Manchild" fine-tunes their jams at three- to five-hour rehearsals.

"Our rehearsals are really easy going because we're all pretty laid back. We joke a lot, but we're all involved in working when we rehearse," Kevin said. "Our music is mostly rock and roll, but for our original songs we try to draw in other forms like jazz, dance beats and blues."

"Rock and roll just has more emotion

in it then other music these days, which is why we like it."

"When we're performing, we try to get the audience involved and make a connection with them."

"We're influenced by artists that make that audience connection. We're all pretty serious about it and if the opportunity to go professional ever presented itself, it would be hard to turn down."

Crammed in Senior Ari Ehrman's basement in his family's house on Kenwood Ave., Seniors Nico Gomez and Marcel Gout of the band "Red Lights" jam with their instruments during their mostly weekend rehearsals.

They like The Strokes

"We've been together since sophomore year, so two to three years," Marcel, the bass guitarist said. "We play alternative rock. The Strokes brought us together."

"A lot of people like The Strokes. They fit every mood because they are very upbeat and relaxed. That's how we like to make our original music."

"Doing Artsfest is fun; the glory of playing for people when they want to hear music is a great opportunity," Ari, the guitarist and drum player, explained.

Long preparation

"Before a performance we'll practice like three to four months in advance, every weekend. When we're not getting ready for a performance, we're more laid back, jam for fun and improvise. We love to play music because we look up to the musicians we love. They are like heroes to us."*



Photo by Emily Chiu

JAMMING IN Ari Ehrman's cluttered basement, Nico Gomez and Marcel Gout use amplifiers to distort their voices, as Ari and Marcel keep a fast rhythm on drums and bass in the veteran band "Red Lights."

Having performed at different public venues, Juniors Jon Pape, Isaac Burgess-von Hallberg and P.T. Bell of "Purple" dress casually for their jam and improvisation sessions at Jon's house in Oak Park, mostly on Fridays after school.

"We've played at Open Mics and also at the Old Town School of Folk Music."

"We have an Artsfest activity for two periods with Jon doing vocals and guitar, P.T. playing bass guitar and me playing the bass," Isaac said.

"We don't have formal songs; we just put our ideas together and see what happens. We're like one together. Our music just comes together so easily. When we meet up someone plays something and the rest of us build off that starting point. We'll go for 15 minutes just non-stop playing. We go all out."

Dressed in t-shirts and jeans, Sophomore Sam Frampton, Junior Andy Zheng and Seniors Richard Tomlinson

and Harry Neal of the "Sam Frampton Quartet" concentrate on the original piece "Dirty Laundry" composed by Sam. The band tapped their feet to the rhythm on the slick wood floor in Music Teacher Dominic Piane's room on a recent Friday.

"We started playing together last month for Artsfest, but I have been playing with each of them since last year," explained Sam, the lead guitarist.

"All of us, except Richard, were in Jazz Band last year so that's how we all met. We are focusing a lot on original compositions and doing our own arrangements on older songs."

"I've been listening to a lot of the Nat King Cole Trio, like us they didn't use a drummer, that makes it harder but we wanted a different sound. So we've been taking a lot of clues from them on how to keep the music flowing without a drum."

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Photo by Loren Kole

PREPARING FOR their upcoming performance at Artsfest, two members of Sam Frampton's Quartet, Richard Tomlinson and Sam Frampton himself, work on using the bass line to keep a tempo instead of the conventional drums.

16 Sports

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009

Basketball players, fans revel in Latin rematch

By Matt Luchins
Sports editor

U-High vs. Latin, round two. Yet this time the game is played on U-High's home court.

The crowd is entirely pro-Maroon, the Dance Troupe is performing and the players come out to their theme song, Juelz Santana's "Second Coming."

JUST IN CASE it wasn't clear enough, the team's last cheer pounds it home, "OUR HOUSE."

On a 13-game win streak and with the Independent School League championship trophy on the premises, the boys make sure February 6 that the only drama of the night comes when the crowd storms the floor to celebrate their victory, a 56-33 thrashing.

So the Maroons enter the playoffs next Monday as Independent School League champions, expecting to improve on last year's double-overtime defeat in Regional Finals.

WITH A 19-3 record as of February 11, the team is also on track to finish with a U-High record in wins, an accomplishment that Head Coach Troy Caldwell credits to defensive dominance.

"Our defensive intensity is what has won us the ISL championship and 19 games," Coach Caldwell said. "I'm expecting us to keep working and fighting like that during the playoffs and that will take us past the Regional

Finals."

Avenging a four-point loss at their closest ISL competitor, Northridge College Prep, December 13, the boys essentially wrapped up the ISL title with a 47-37 home victory that left players and coaches in tears and prompted the Sun-Times to call the game a "program-defining win."

"Winning that game showed that we have grown up as a team and as individual players," Coach Caldwell said.

"It came down to our players wanting it more and now we've made our mark on the scene and put our team on the map."

RESULTS ARE as follows:

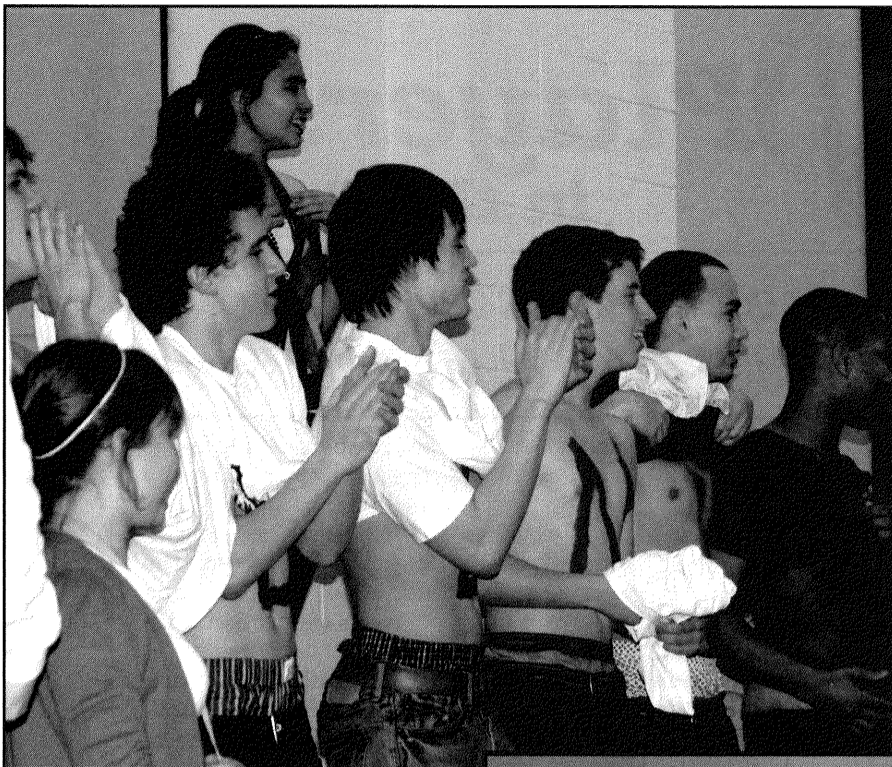
Holy Trinity, January 6, away: Varsity won 77-70; **Latin**, January 9, away: Varsity won 57-51; **Francis Parker**, January 16, away: Varsity won 69-38; **North Shore Country Day**, January 20, away: Varsity won 58-39.

Morgan Park Academy, January 23, away: Varsity won 63-48; **Northridge College Prep**, January 28, home: Varsity won 47-37; **Elgin Academy**, January 30, home: Varsity won 67-47; **CICS-Northtown**, February 3, away: Varsity won 77-43; **Elgin Academy**, February 4, away: Varsity won 87-82.

Latin, February 6, home: Varsity won 56-33; **ISL Championships**, February 7, away: J.V. defeated **North Shore Country Day**, 64-38, J.V. defeated **Latin**, 31-27; **Bremen**, February 10, home: Varsity won 50-40; **Robeson**, February 14, home: Varsity won 67-57; **Nazareth Academy**, February 18, away: Varsity won 46-42; **St. Laurence**, February 24, away: Results past Midway deadline.



"It was the best season of my life. The team has a bond that will never be broken."
—Alexis Jenkins, senior

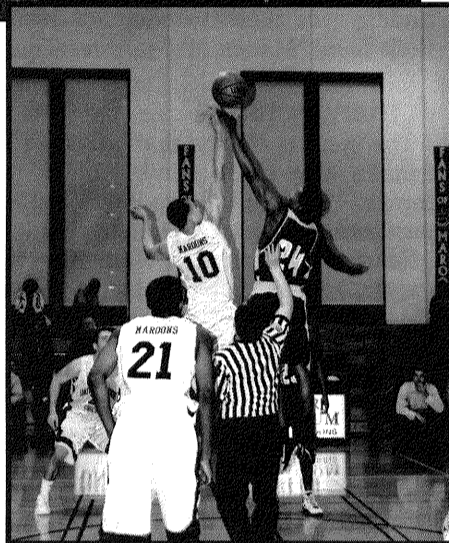


"WE WANT WEENIE!" With the Maroons pulling away from Latin at home, February 6, U-High fans pleaded for Substitute Guard Mark "Weenie" Woerner. Moments later, Mark entered the game.

EXTENDING his 6 foot 7 inch body, Sophomore Mike Turner fights for the tip with a Bremen Brave, February 10.

Basketball update

Adding another achievement to their impressive high school careers, Seniors Zeke Upshaw and Alexis Jenkins have been nominated to play in the McDonald's High School All American Games.



Photos by Kendall Gordon

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Photo by Kyra Sturgill

AFTER A LONG day, Senior Alexis Madara visits University Market to pick up fresh grapes and pasta salad and get re-energize.

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Basketball girls celebrate glory

By Rachel Sylora
Midway reporter

The morning after playing her last game in a U-High uniform, Senior Alexis Jenkins February 20 picked up the Chicago Tribune and saw bittersweet, full-page article about her remarkable basketball career.

Ranked the 52nd best point guard in the Class of 2009 by ESPN HoopGurlz, Alexis, cocaptain with Senior Johanna Heinemen-Pieper, anchored the Maroons to the 3A Regional Championship only to lose 53-40 to Glenbard South, last Thursday.

Defeating Ridgewood 52-38, February 10, away, the Maroons finished a historic regular season with a 24-3 overall record, and 10-1 in the Independent School League.

Breaking into the Chicago Sun-Times January rankings of Chicagoland's top 25 girls' basketball teams, the Maroons ended 3rd in the ISL behind longtime North Side rivals Latin and North Shore Country Day.

"Being ranked 25th in the Chicago Sun-Times was amazing," Johanna said. "I don't think a U-High girls' basketball team has ever done that before, which is really cool. We worked really hard for that ranking. Our team was able to have great wins by having

good offense.

"Everybody is extremely proud of our season and what we accomplished, but no one is ready for our season to be over."

J.V. finished 7-7 overall and 6-1 in the ISL.

"This season has gone extraordinarily well," Sophomore Emily Roberts said. "Overall we have a better record than we did last year. Our coach, Baker Franke, has been great; he's really worked with us to make us a more versatile team."

"He's also been extremely good at leaving people in the game long enough to work the kinks out, which was great because we were able to fix and work on things without the fear of being taken out of the game just because we made a mistake."

Scores not previously mentioned are as follows:

Latin, January 23, away: Varsity won 56-49, j.v. won 34-15; **Lake Forest Academy**, January 26, away: Varsity won 55-27; **Morgan Park Academy**, January 30, away: Varsity won 67-37; **Timothy Christian**, February 3, home: Varsity won 60-46; **Francis Parker**, February 4, home: Varsity won 60-21; **Morgan Park Academy**, home, February 6: Varsity won 63-38; **Ridgewood**, February 10, away: Varsity won 52-38; **Harper**, February 17, home: Varsity won 74-39; **Glenbard South**, February 19, home: Varsity lost 40-53.

Fencers wind up in high style

By Matt Luchins
Sports editor

Traveling more than an hour to Waukesha, Wisconsin, varsity fencers competed in the Great Lakes Conference Championships, January 31, the 10th and final meet of their first season.

Once they arrived at Catholic Memorial High School, the Maroons squared off against 10 other high schools.

With Juniors Bill Stueben, Paul Weichselbaum and Peter Hansen each finishing in the top10, the Maroons earned enough high finishes to claim 2nd place. Julia Goldsmith-Pinkham finished 14th out of 37.

"We did pretty well at the tournament," Bill said. "It was our first overall team award. We needed three high places to get 2nd and we got them. Everyone was supporting everyone so there was a great team atmosphere."

"The couple best parts of this season are the fact that we have more meets and we're also in double A instead of triple A, so we have a good change of going down State. Also everyone is having a lot of fun."
—Don Traubert, senior



Swimmers look back on tough season with pride

By Sydney Scarlata

Midway reporter

Soaked and smiling, Varsity Boys' Swim Team Coach Paul Gunty and J.V. Coach Tony Del Campo climb out of Myers-McLoraine pool at the Ratner Center after U-High's victories of 80-43 for j.v. and 108-54 for varsity against Mt. Carmel February 3.

Concluding with a tradition after their final home meet of the season, swimmers had thrown both coaches into the pool.

Completing their season, varsity swimmers finished 4th of 8 teams at the Evergreen Park Invitational Saturday January 24, and won 122-44 Tuesday, January 27 at the Lake Forest meet.

Following their feat against Lake Forest, they lost 62-105 to Lane Tech, Tuesday February 10.

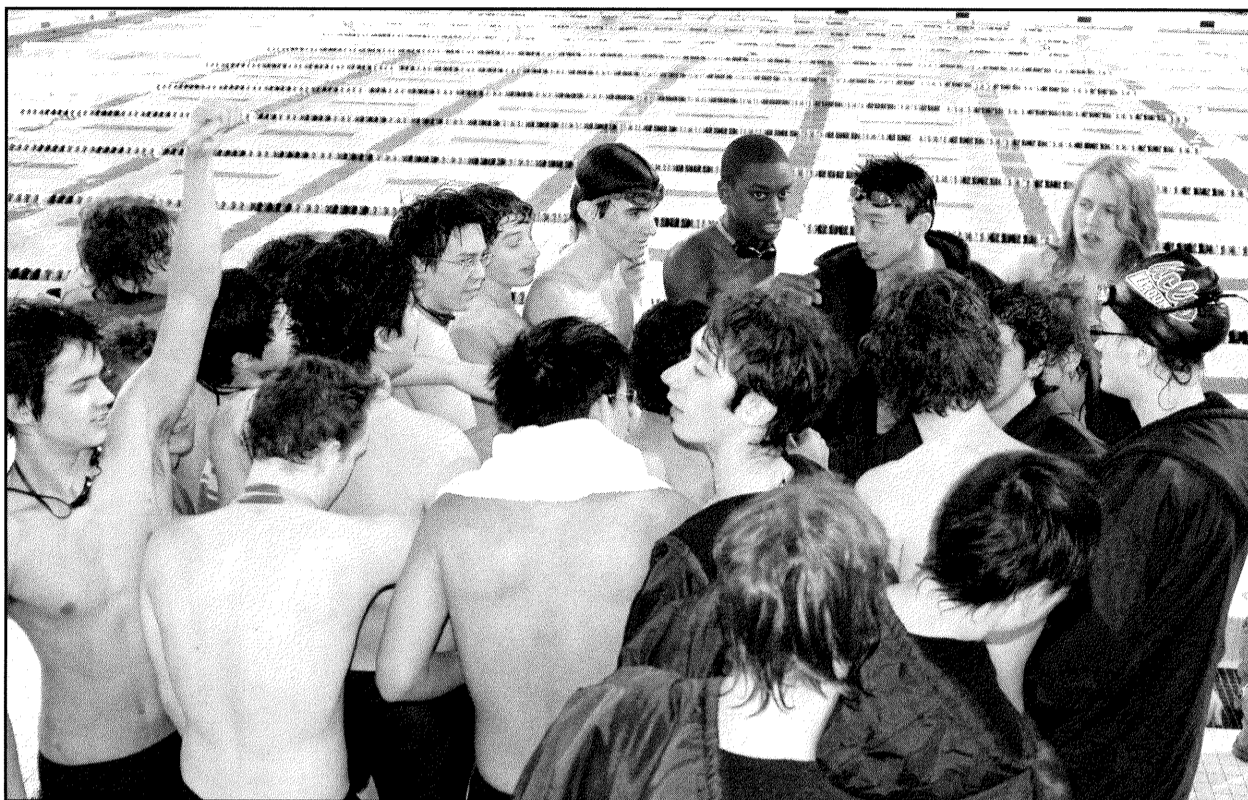
Shallow depth has plagued the team, Coach Gunty said.

"We have one very strong swimmer and a decent swimmer in each event" he said.

"This prevents us from placing higher at some of the bigger meets.

"We finished in the middle of the pack at the Evergreen Park Invite, but we had a couple of kids missing. It was a hard meet to swim at because there were no diving blocks.

"The Lake Forest meet was not very competitive for



HUDDLING AROUND each other after a home victory over Lake Forest at the Ratner Center, January 27, varsity boys' swimmers prepare for a ritual post-game cheer. Maroons won 122-44.

Photo by Emily Chiu

us. It was a chance for swimmers to race in events they had never swam before."

Pleased with the performance of j.v. swimmers at their last meet, the Latin Invitational February 13, Coach Del Campo felt the team utilized self motivation through out the season.

"They swam extremely well," he said. "But also,

they showed a lot of sportsmanship and respect towards the other teams.

"As a coach, I was able to experiment with different coaching techniques because I didn't have focus on making sure they were giving 100 percent because they already wanted to strive to be the best."

SPORTS GABRIEL BUMP

In spirit and dedication, these athletes are on track

YOU CAN spot them from a mile away.

Or at least from the end of the hallway.

THEY TEND to travel in packs, typically adorned in maroon track jackets trimmed with gold thread.

Even relationships start to sprout between the members.

Everyone can spot a track and field couple. They're usually the happiest ones around.

On Monday mornings they move a little more gingerly than usual, still trying to shake off the aches resulting from the hour long before school practice.

From 7 to 8 each Monday morning, the track and field team stretches, runs and gasps for breath in between the two.

NEVER GRIPING, at least in earshot of the coaches, about having to drag themselves to Henry Crown Field House by 6:45 a.m. after spending the previous night

finishing homework and studying.

When practice ends and the runners all pile into cars or set off on foot back to school, complaints are made but are almost always followed with laughter.

This type of work-first mentality is probably the reason both the boys' and girls' track and field teams regularly attain Independent School League titles.

Anyone that knows U-High athletics expects the great results but the joyful attitudes of all the runners are little harder to imagine.

CENTERING ANY high school sports team around the philosophy that work is essential and should be happily welcomed can potentially harden those forced to subscribe to it.

One could also expect some negative feelings aimed towards the enforcer of this mentality.

In this case, veteran Head Coach Bud James.

So why are his runners always smiling and laughing, not behind his back but with him?

Why do runners that he's coached keep coming back to visit him and catch

up with friends from the team?

Also considering the fact that track and field is a mostly individual sport, such togetherness and dedication is at first unexpected.

IN BASKETBALL, soccer and other team sports, you rely on each person on the court or field next to you to win. But when a runner takes their mark on the track, it's just them and a stretch of red rubber.

Maybe it's the isolation when it comes down to performing that brings the team together.

As senior runner Matt Fitzpatrick puts it, "There's no one to get mad at but yourself."

EGOS WITHIN the team don't play that much of a factor when you're only competing against yourself. Practically everyone gets a chance to run each meet.

There's no weekly competition for starting line-ups.

The track and field team consists of individuals all striving to make the person next to them better.

Not out of self interest, but just because that's what families do.

Tracksters eye strengths for 2nd meet

By Isadora Ruyter-Harcourt

Midway reporter

Advancing towards their second indoor meet, boys' and girls' track and field teams will compete 7 p.m. Friday at the Henry Crown Field House, 5550 South University Avenue.

The teams will face Jones, St. Ignatius, North Shore, Loyola Academy and Urban Charter.

Middle distances will prove strengths for the Maroons this season as shown in their first meet, according to Senior Matt Fitzpatrick.

"WE HOPED the meet would be better than it was, but that is expected," Matt said.

"Our strong points this year will be the middle distances, so the 4x400, the 200, the 400, and the 800 could be good. Some people got worse times then they wanted, so they were disappointed. New people did surprisingly well for their first meets."

Handoffs and relays remain weak areas, according to Coach Chris Harper.

"IT WAS a great start to their season," Coach Harper said. "The relay handoffs were off; we need to work on that."

"The more challenging teams this year will be St. Ignatius, the Urban Prep sprinters and North Shore mid distance team. We will do well this year in the distance races, the 800, the sprints and jumps."

"We don't have the throwers in meets until outdoor meets, so we have to start training them for the outdoor season soon."

"But the team definitely lived up to our expectations, and they had a great start to their season. We are very pleased with them."

Sailing team forms for competition

By Christian Casteñeda

Midway reporter

Starting practice March 4, the newly- formed Sailing Club is hoping to expand its membership from three to twelve students.

Sailing Club is being coached by Mr. Kurt Tompsen, director of the Columbia Yacht Club, located at the east end of Randolph Street off Lake Shore Drive, and Mr. Jake Christy another sailing instructor.

Middle School Teacher Susan Leshner, an experienced sailor and a member of Columbia Yacht Club, is serving as

adviser.

The club will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays after school for two hours and Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to prepare for competitions with other schools, according to Sailing Club Founder Lizzie Guynn, freshman.

"Some schools that we would compete against include New Trier High School, Loyola, Culver Academy, Lake Forest High School, and St. Ignatius," Lizzie said.

The sailors will compete on two different types of courses.

"Sometimes we'll compete in Windward Leeward races, which are simply two

pins, one north and one south and the sailors have to round both marks," Lizzie said.

"There are also courses set up in the shape of a triangle. These also require the sailors to round each mark."

"The races really all depend on which skipper drives the boat in the smartest way. This means finding the fastest route with the most wind."

Because it is an organization and not a school-funded athletic team, students will have to pay around \$350 to join the Sailing Club, Lizzie said.



≡WHEELS & THINGS≡



BROWSING
THROUGH rows
of **Wheels &**
Things bikes,
Jeremy Archer
looks for a new
ride.

NOW EXAMINING the
racks of accessories, he
finds a seat for his bike.



SPRING IS COMING,
and Jeremy is ready
for the road with his
latest equipment.

Photos by Emily Chiu

1340 East 55th Street ■ (773)493-4326

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.–5 p.m.