

Compromise insured student guides for Open House Sunday

By Rafi Khan
Associate editor

Chalk one up for Student Council President Jack Brewer. Just weeks after Jack was elected May 8, he promised students he would increase the role of their voice in school decisions. His promise followed administrators bumping a planned performance by the student band Manchind of "Twist and Shout" from Commencement June 11, 2009 in Rockefeller Chapel.

Manchild members – Singer Kevin Brunke, Bassist Richard Tomlinson, Guitarist Max Wagner and Drummer Max Budovich, all seniors graduating at Commencement – had applied May 7 to perform Jimi Hendrix's "Little Wing."



Jack

AFTER administrators and senior class officers approved the song, the musicians changed their minds and asked Senior Class President Nico Gomez if "Twist and Shout" would be acceptable. Nico told them yes without consulting administrators or other senior class officers.

Dean of Students Larry McFarlane told the band two weeks later that amplified guitars and shouting were inappropriate for both the chapel and the tone of graduation. Manchind was offered the alternative playing an acoustic version but declined.

Band members submitted petitions with 70 senior's signatures and e-mailed alumni, who wrote to Principal Matt Horvat supporting the band's cause. When band members contacted Rockefeller Chapel personnel, they were told the Chapel is not a religious institution and they had no problem with rock and roll performances.

BUT LAB Schools Director David Magill stood by Mr. McFarlane's decision.

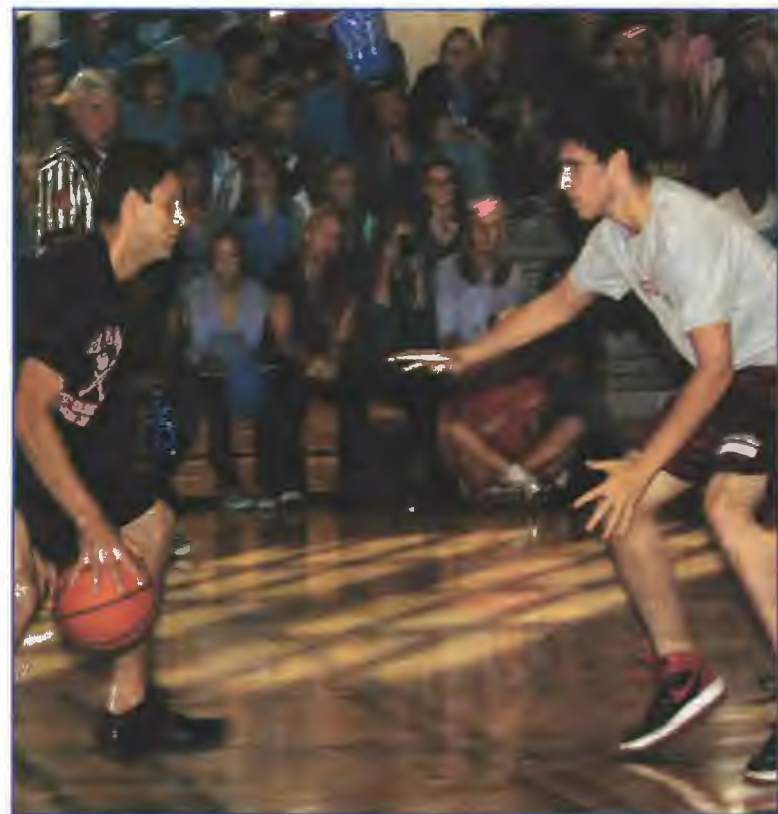
"I want you to know that I support the decision of the administration of the high school and wish that your group would have considered a different and more appropriate musical presentation," Mr. Magill wrote in an e-mail message to Kevin June 3.

Feeling that students' opinions were ignored, Student Council members sent Mr. Magill a letter saying they would not participate in school events this year, in particular the U-High Admissions Open House which took place yesterday, if the band wasn't allowed play.

The band didn't play. But Jack didn't give up on his promise

HE PROPOSED to Principal Matt Horvat this fall that Student Council and administrators create a student-faculty committee that would be called to resolve disagreements between senior class officers and administrators. Mr. Horvat and Mr. McFarlane finalized plans for such a coalition October 7, and Student Council members agreed to help out at the Admissions Open House, held Sunday.

(continued on page 15)



GOOD SPORTS

Photo by Loren Kole

COMING BACK from a double digit deficit at halftime, students won 46-44 for in the student-faculty basketball game October 2, the first of four all-school assemblies sponsored by Student Council. Guarding Boys' Baseball Assistant Coach Pete Retsofs, Junior Henry Bergman watches for a chance to take the ball as Dean of Students Larry McFarlane referees the game.

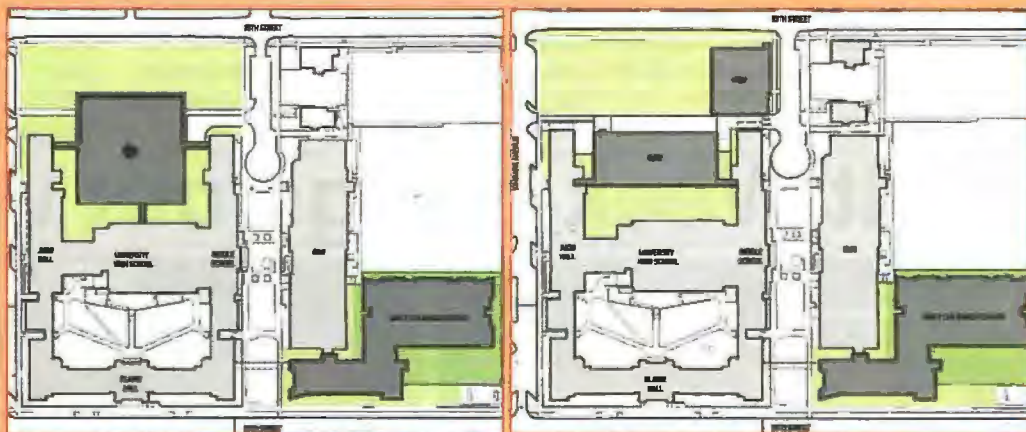


THESE ARE the first public images of the architects' visions of possible additions to the Lab Schools as it expands. Two possible designs by Valerio Dewalt Train Associates and FGM Architects presently are being considered. One features an Arts Wing building (above) where Belfield Hall is now located. The other plan splits the Art Wing into two buildings. In both plans, the Arts addition would include a theater and assembly space and music and drama performance areas.

Architects' renderings envision possibilities for expanded school



ANOTHER design being considered splits the Arts Wing into two buildings. One building would replace Belfield Hall, the other rise in the eastern portion of the Garden in a present playground area.



BOTH PROPOSALS include a new Early Childhood Center located south of Kovler Gym along 59th Street. One version (above left) shows in gray both the Center and the new Arts building which would replace Belfield Hall, which originated in 1903 as the Chicago Manual Training School.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL (above right) splits Arts facilities into a replacement for Belfield Hall and, to the east, a separate building.

"This is still a work in progress," Lab Schools Director David Magill said. "These are not exact floor plans, but two aesthetic ideas and two different types of architecture."

"We're working towards finalizing our plans sometime in March. Then the Board of Trustees of the University has to approve those plans before they go into action."

The proposals followed depth surveys in the school and community.



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER serving Nursery School, kindergarten and 1st and 2nd grades with tailored facilities would face 59th street and house a library, gym and learning lab as well as large classrooms with outdoor access. A new bridge would connect the Early Childhood Center to Blaine Hall.

2 Coming up

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Poisonous comedy makes Fall Play dangerously funny

By Andy Zheng
Associate editor

Murder and insanity accompany a family's bizarre experience as this year's Fall Production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" takes the audience to a surreal 1940s Brooklyn. Written in 1939 by American playwright Joseph Kesselring, "Arsenic" ran for 1,444 performances after its 1941 debut. Frank Capra's famous film adaptation was held back three years because of the long Broadway run.



Jolisha

PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED at U-High in 1967 and 1998, "Arsenic" will be performed 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Belfield Theater.

Tickets are available for \$10 at a booth in the High School Lobby.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is one of my all-time favorites," said Drama Teacher Liucija Ambrosini. "I like to have a really good variety of scripts people work on, and we go through a lot of different time periods."



Endesha

"IT'S A CLASSIC American set piece comedy, and we haven't done that in a long time."

"It's got wonderful characters. Every part in it is a defined character. There aren't any that just walk on stage and then leave."

The quirky characters and sharp plot twists make "Arsenic" timeless, according to Jolisha Johnson, student director with Endesha Logan, both sophomores.

"I LOVE THE characters," Jolisha

said. "The sweetest characters are the ones that have the darkest secrets."

"They're all crazy, and they have these spontaneous, out of nowhere moments."

"Within the plot, there are all these huge contrasts. When you first watch the show you think you have it all figured out, but all these secrets start coming out."

"IT'S THE KIND of play where even to the last five minutes, there are still surprises, and you feel like you don't want the play to end."

Many of the characters in the play are based on famous personalities of the time.

Playing drama critic Mortimer Brewster, Senior James Krull points out the interplay between characters generates the humor in "Arsenic."

"THE PLAY is really about watching Mortimer as ridiculous things happen to him," James said.

"He's a conservative, biting New Yorker, but his family is just completely insane, and throughout the play he just deteriorates as more characters are introduced."

"He takes himself very seriously, but nothing serious ever happens. It's hard to play a serious character in a comedy, but that's also what makes it funny."

"The family dynamic in the play is really interesting. Mortimer's whole family is crazy. He says that when the Indians were scalping the settlers from the Mayflower, his grandfather was scalping the Indians."



Photo by Taylor Crowl

"MORTIMER, NOT THAT!" Martha Brewster (Kaitlyn Chang) wams her nephew Mortimer (James Krull) in the Fall Production, "Arsenic and Old Lace." Martha and her sister Abby have a little secret which involves the contents of Mortimer's cup. A hit play and then film in the early 1940s (and ever since), the comedy opens Thursday.

"HE'S CRAZY TOO, but he just doesn't know it."

"Arsenic's" set challenged the designers to work imaginatively within clear constraints, according to Technical Director Allen Ambrosini.

"The play is a frenetic comedy, and the mood is just kind of craziness within a very confined situation," he said.

"THE DEMANDS of the play are pretty specific; it takes place in the interior of a house with two levels."

"We have to be creative within the restrictions and work with the style, manifest the way the house feels to the audience."

"We try to have characteristics that you wouldn't normally see with houses from the period, and there'll be some surprises."

"THE LIGHTS and sound will be in concert with what happens on stage; it

has to underline the twists and turns, and this play has a lot of twists and turns."

Cast members not already named, by role, are as follows:

Abby Brewster, Kaitlyn Chang; **The Reverend Harper,** Santana Iafeta; **Teddy Brewster,** McTavish McArdle; **Officer Brophy,** Dylan Lambert-Gillian; **Officer Klein,** Giorgi Plys-Garzotto; **Martha Brewster,** Sara Posner; **Elaine Harper,** Gloria Zingales; **Mr. Gibbs,** Jake Newell; **Jonathan Brewster,** Nick Elitzik; **Dr. Einstein,** Joe Martin; **Officer O'Hara,** Adam Kelsich; **Lieutenant Rooney,** Sydney Fishman; **Mr. Witherspoon,** Aneesh Gupta.

Crew heads are as follows:

Props, Aaron Lichter; **lights,** Isaac Nicholas; **sound,** Jamell Brown; **set,** Charlotte Lastra; **makeup,** Sydney Fishman, Endesha Logan and Hannah Herbst; **house,** James Krull; **publicity,** Maddie Lindsay.

Spirit Week brings out wacky fun, fashions



U-HIGHERS SHAMELESSLY showed off quirky fashion senses during Spirit Week preceding Homecoming September 28-October 2 by dressing as characters Monday, in wacky clothing Tuesday, as twins Wednesday, in togas and retro garb Thursday, and boasting their class color Friday. A pie-eating contest Wednesday was won by the only student-teacher entered.

Student Council and Cultural Union sponsored the fun-filled week.

AS TWINS OR TRIPLETS (photos from left), U-Highers donned identical garb September 29 for



Twin Day, the hallways and cafeteria as Cubs fans, Brian Urlachers, nerds, and their duplicates. Juniors Aalap Herur-Raman, Julian DuBuclet and Austin Morris were three-fourths of U-High's men in black entourage.

TAKING THE CAKE (or rather, pie), Junior Henry Bergman and Science Teacher Daniel Calleri—in the background—defeated three other pie-eating pairs, one from each grade level. In the foreground, Freshman Catherine Zhou feeds her partner Ellen Ma. The other competing teams were Seniors Bettina Wiesenthal and Gabby Lubin and Sophomores

Hannah Herbst and Catherine Yunis. The apple pie came from Costco; winners got bragging rights.

WACKY AND TACKY U-Highers sported their most outrageous outfits September 28, dressing in neon hues, clashing colors and, worst of all, different styles of plaid in the same outfit. Senior Mark Woerner's threads (in photo) were among several get-ups that drew attention during the day. U-High-erds put on equally outlandish clothing Decade Day September 30, when outfits took a particular decade's characteristics, from the 600s B.C.E. to 2000s C.E.



Photos by Jackie Robertson

"This puts us in the best imaginable position to instill a sense of environmental stewardship in our students through hands-on projects of the sort that has already seen a class of 7th graders calculate the total greenhouse gasses emitted by automobiles idling along 59th Street, after school, on a January day, 11,000 pounds."
—Mr. Scott Griffin, facilities coordinator



Recycling big time, school joins Green effort

By Mitchell Stern
Associate editor

Planning to recycle 500 pounds of school catalogs, magazines and other subscriptions, Facilities Coordinator Scott Griffin and five faculty members are leading the charge for a greener Lab School.

The recycling of junk mail represents the school's first environmental project with the Green Schools Alliance, an organization promoting public, private and independent schools from elementary school to college to take action on climate change and the environment. The program began as a White House initiative, and 1,700 schools in 36 states and five countries are involved, according to their website.

In coordination with the program, the school will participate in the Green Cup Challenge, January 26-February 22, which challenges participating schools across the globe to lower their electrical

meters as much as possible.

As part of the challenge, financial analysts measure the electrical meters weekly for the duration of the challenge, Mr. Griffin said.

According to Lab Schools Director David Magill, who asked Mr. Griffin to organize the recycling project, the timing seemed right for the school to join the Green Schools Alliance.

"I got a letter from the Green Schools Alliance over a year ago," Mr. Magill said.

"It was a time when the school was looking at new construction, the prices of oil and gasoline were high, sustainability efforts were going through the roof, the organization didn't cost anything, members of the faculty were interested in it and it was the right thing to do."

A dozen U-Highers are involved with the program so far, but every student can be more conservative of resources by turning off lights when classrooms are empty, Mr. Griffin said.

"Every Thursday during double lunch, every class is empty, but lights are still left on," Mr. Griffin said. "There are stickers by the light switches to remind people to turn off the lights, but people don't do this."

"Nearly \$600,000 was spent to send steam to all of the school buildings 2007-2008. Obviously, the heat can't be turned off when it is cold. So, I'd like to see the school start taking initiative to turning off the lights when they aren't needed. Also, computers can be turned off when they are not in use."

Starting this quarter, students can work with the Green Schools Alliance for community service credit, Community Learning Director Luis Pascasio said.

"There are bins of school mail in some parts of the building and, as community service, students do the physical gathering of junk mail," Mr. Pascasio said. "They also call up or e-mail the mail suppliers to stop them from sending more unwanted mail."

Brief-ly

Arabian Nights replaces Halloween as theme for Bizaarnival celebration

Arabian Nights will replace Halloween as the theme of Bizaarnival, noon-4 p.m., Saturday, October 31 in Sunny Gym.

Revived in 2005 as an alternative to trick-or-treating and other traditional Halloween activities, it replaced a spring carnival-themed event that took place from the 1940s to 1960s.

Selling Affy Tapples, chocolate-covered pretzels, popcorn, and candy during the school day, the 15 Bizaarnival Committee student members were supported by Faculty Sponser Marianne Zemil and husband, Parent's Association Liason Evan Zemil, to fund decorations, refreshments, and supplies for the event.

"We will also have booths where the children can make trick-or-treating goody bags and have their faces painted," said Bizaarnival Committee President Lilly Rosner, senior. "The Lower School librarians will tell stories from 'One Thousand and One Nights.'"

■ **DEBATE HONORED**—Heading into their fourth tournament, debaters will compete at the University of Michigan National Tournament November 6-8 in Ann Arbor. Homewood Flossmoor, November 11-13, and Glenbrook, November 21-22, will follow.

National Forensics League chose the national debate topic: whether the United States Federal Government should increase social services for persons living in poverty in the United States.

"We have to do a lot of research so that we are prepared to defend either side of the topic," said Captain Jennifer Glick, senior. "Although the team got off to a rocky start, we've reworked many of our arguments and expect to have a good season. We have a lot of promising novices."

In their second tournament at Morgan Park Academy in Beverly, debaters Jennifer and Sophomore Charlie Rafkin won all five rounds, qualifying for quarterfinals. Sophomores Joyce Harduvel and Jacob Rosenbacher won four of five rounds, qualifying for semifinals, and Sophomore Spencer Lee and Freshman Conrad Harron placed among the top 10 novice teams. Teams of Charlie and Jacob, and of Joyce and Sophomore Alex Ford both won three of six rounds at their most recent tournament at New Trier in Winnetka.

■ **BLOOD DRIVE**—Trying to improve on the 37 pints of U-High blood donations

during last year's event, Student Council and the American Red Cross put on the first blood drive of the year, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., yesterday, in the dance studio.

To have participated, students must weigh more than 110 pounds and be older than 16 according to Blood Drive Student Coordinator Kaia Tammen, senior, vice-president of Student Council.

"We're going to try to have two blood drives this year. Usually they're held between sport seasons so more athletes can donate too" Kaia said. "Hopefully, we'll collect more than last year though we got a lot then, too."

■ **FINDING NEW RIVALS**—Seeking to avenge losses last year to New York high schools Dalton and Horace Mann, 24 Model U.N. delegates will compete at Rutgers University for the first time, November 12-15 in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Representing South Africa at Rutgers, their second of five conferences, U-Highers will discuss issues like freedom of expression at the international level and human rights in the fight against terrorism.

At their first conference at Georgia Tech, October 4-6 in Atlanta, 22 delegates, including eight newcomers, represented New Zealand and Columbia.

"Two years ago, we tried West Coast conferences and the style was too different," Jonah said. "We really chose Georgia Tech so we could face Port Charlotte High School of Florida, a team that won Best Small School at the Harvard conference last year."

■ **COMMENDED**—With high standardized test scores, but not quite high enough to qualify for semifinals in the National Merit Scholarship competition, 15 seniors have earned prestigious Commended standing in the program.

Two seniors in the associated National Achievement Scholarship program for outstanding African-American students also received commendations, though under a new name, "Outstanding Students."

The seniors are as follows: MERIT—Amelia Acosta, Lucille Benoit, Jonah Breslau, Calder Coalson, Alex Fryer, Sherry Fu, Loren Kole, Eugene Lee, Daniel Levine, Aaron Lichter, Alma Schrage, Amy Solomon, Madeline Stecy, Marissa Suchyta, Andrew Sylora.

ACHIEVEMENT—Kiara Davis, JR Mahung.
(Editor's note: In its September 29 issue the Midway reported 27 seniors were National Merit Semifinalists. The correct number is 22.)



Photo by Loren Kole

EVERYTHING BUT THE ROOSTER CROWING

TWO TO THREE DOZEN faculty members and students have been buying breakfast in the cafeteria daily since the start of the year according to Director Rachel Kovich.

After U-Highers requested hot breakfast last year, Ms. Kovich debuted the new service as an experiment the last three weeks of school and now it's here to stay.

"Students like the convenience and variety of our good quality food," Ms. Kovich explained. "It is much better than the bowl of cereal most students get at home. Now they have an easy way to start their day with a healthy, well-rounded meal."

The new menu offers eggs, pancakes, waffles, sausages, bacon and a made-to-order omelet bar.

"With an increase in students, we can expand to more specialty breakfast items, like blintzes and crepes," Ms. Kovich said. "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day."

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"It was the most wonderful experience as a photographer I have ever had." - Ms. Liese Ricketts

Fenger murder ups concern on violence

By Bill Stueben
Associate editor

Opening the nation's eyes to a city's war, the video of Fenger High School honor student Derrion Albert being murdered September 24, outside a community center, put a vicious face on Chicago's teen violence.

The videotape prompted President Barack Obama to send two cabinet members, Attorney General Eric Holder and Education Secretary Arne Duncan, to town October 6. Calling the video a "wake-up call" for the country, they pledged federal support to combat the violence and promised a \$500,000 grant to Fenger for counselors and other programs.

Mr. Duncan was Chicago Public Schools CEO from 2001 to 2008. He is a 1982 U-High graduate.

TWO GANGS, from Ville and Altgeld Gardens neighborhoods, have been fighting for decades according to area



Ms. Foster

residents. After the conversion of Carver High School, in Altgeld Gardens, to a military academy in 2004, most students were transferred to Fenger.

The shift has turned the area around Fenger into a war-zone. Anticipating chases by robbers or attackers, students don't wear back-packs and never walk alone, according to a story in the Chicago Tribune. Altgeld Gardens students e. Derrion Albert took his last steps along this route.

BEFORE THE 2006 school year, an average of 10 to 15 Chicago Public Schools (CPS) students were fatally shot each year. That soared to 24 deadly shootings in the 2006-07 school year, 23 deaths and 211 shootings in the 2007-08 school year and 34 deaths and 290 shootings last school year.

The demolition of large housing projects like Robert Taylor Homes has resulted in increased gang violence in certain neighborhoods according to History Teacher Charles Branham, well-known Chicago historian.

"The more recently publicized beating death was a result of a student having to cross over gang turf to get to school," Mr. Branham explained. "A lot of these kids are members of broken families with no extended family for guidance. They don't have any types of after-school activities or church groups to show them the right way. Some of them have sports, but that's clearly not enough."

INVOLVING THEIR role models

should be a key part of Chicago's battle against gang member's influence Mr. Branham believes.

"I want to see Oprah, MJ, Obama and Jay-Z to take a stand against these gangs," Mr. Branham said. "We need to call them out and bring them into the lime light. Let's use their pop culture to our advantage. I don't hear any songs or ballads about the honor roll students that are getting killed out there. When are they going to step up and save these kids. All hands on deck for this one."

If the government controlled gangs' accessibility to guns, the streets would be much less dangerous, Mr. Branham added.

"IF WE could convince the Supreme Court to decide raising taxes on bullets doesn't violate the second amendment, the price of bullets could be raised to \$30 for everything except rifles, and that would make a huge difference. I was in ROTC, I know how to shoot a gun, these kids don't. They miss 90 percent of the time and half the time it hits an innocent little girl."

While devastated by Albert's murder, Chicago Sun-Times columnist Stella Foster, who has receives hundreds of email responses to her comments concerning Chicago gang violence, said the videotape of the crime was a blessing. Ms. Foster was interviewed twice by phone earlier this month.

"This is not a new problem," Ms. Foster said. "The difference here is that there's a face on it. Unlike the many who have died from teen violence in Chicago, Derrion's death will not be in vain. "It's not that the media doesn't cover all of the crimes. It's that people read the stories and decide that it's yesterday's news so they can't do anything about it. They might think it's just blacks killing blacks but it's going to spill over into other neighborhoods eventually."

RATHER THAN focusing on what went wrong in the first place, Chicago leadership should work on protecting students in danger first, Ms. Foster believes.

"Teen violence in Chicago is like a lion. Now that it's out of the cage, the only thing we should be thinking about is how to prevent it from eating everyone," Ms. Foster explained.

"We shouldn't be worrying about whether there was a funky lock on the cage or if someone left the door open. How are kids supposed to focus on their studies when they don't know if they're going to make it home every day? A lot of them have to join gangs to survive. We need to protect the good ones, like Derrion, and make kids feel

safer without the protection of a gang. If that means bringing in the National Guard, so be it."

CHICAGO PUBLIC Schools CEO Ron Huberman is leading an antiviolence campaign, funded by government stimulus money, to roll back zero tolerance policies put into place in the 1990s. His plan involves a system of determining the students most at risk, both as victims and as perpetrators he said in an interview on channel ll's "Chicago Tonight" October 1.

Though encouraged by Mr. Huberman's initiative, Ms. Foster worries that the plan and funding may not be put to good use.

"The only thing that scares me about dropping millions of dollars into a bad situation, is to make sure we know where it goes," Ms. Foster explained. "We have to use common sense to make sure the money goes for an end result that was better than what we had before and doesn't wind up lost in the politics."

OFFERING POSSIBLE solutions to the violence, Ms. Foster argues that CPS can reach students most if it involves their parents in the effort.

"There should be town hall meetings that only the parents are invited to. They would have name tags and be

introduced to each other. This would put a faces on the names of the bullies kids come home and complain about to parents before they're on the news. That way, parents have a chance at stopping their kids before it's too late."

More law enforcement presence would make the quickest difference, Ms. Foster said.

"THERE aren't enough cops in those areas and they don't have enough power," she explained. "If every cop had the power to stop a car with kids keeping their heads beneath the windows, they'd stop a lot of drive-bys."

"As long as there are cameras in the squad cars, there shouldn't be abuse of it. If they accidentally stop a car with university students, I would assume they'd find books and not guns. Not many kids would have the guts to attack someone if they know they're going to be caught by the police."

"The cops patrolling the areas need to have psychological evaluations as well to make sure they aren't disinterested. It's not even across racial lines. There are veteran black cops who have been through so much violence, they feel like they can't change a thing if they intervened."



Courtesy of Ms. Liese Ricketts

HANDS CLASPED solemnly, these three Peruvians complied with Ms. Liese Ricketts' request to sit and have their photo taken in Lima with the phrase "El Paraíso de mis Sueños" (*the paradise of my dreams*) on the backdrop.

To photograph, teacher returns home

By Christian Castañeda
Associate editor

Using backdrops made from sheets of colored fabric emblazoned with Spanish phrases, Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts captured people in her native Peru on a park bench for a photo project she titled "The Magic Bench."

When she took photos last July, Ms. Ricketts tried to figure out how she could be "*una fotografa ambulante*" or an itinerant photographer.

Using phrases such as "*Majia e Ilusion*" in her photos backdrop, she felt "might create a space with magic and illusion and, simultaneously, create neither."

Ms. Ricketts set up the photos every day on the same bench.

"I approached people who would walk by and I would explain what the project is, then I would say would you like to participate and have a seat," explained Ms. Ricketts.

"I started with this project this

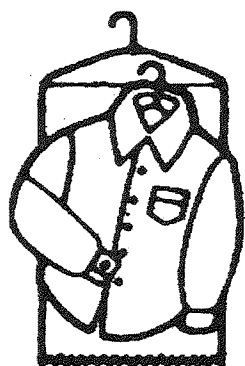
last summer. It's ongoing although I am going to be doing another project in Peru next year, working with a museum in another part of the country and doing an exhibit there."

Once her subjects were photographed, Ms. Ricketts had them sign a book where she kept all her photos as well as model release forms. She would later give them a copy of their photo after she developed the roll.

Ms. Ricketts said the project gave her the opportunity to relive her years in Peru. She plans to exhibit the photos anywhere she is invited to.

"This experience in Lima was special because I've lived in Lima before for 13 years," Ms. Ricketts said. "My children were born there, my family, I'm Peruvian so it was an all around great experience because I connected with the Latin side of me."

"I've always wanted to be an itinerant photographer and I finally did it."



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"Homecoming was a huge success, the D.J. and music was a lot better this year, coat check went very smoothly and everyone seemed to have a great time."

—Senior Julia Baird, Cultural Union president



Photofeature 5

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Homecoming Dance brings fashion mix, and some togas too

As "Hotel Room Service" by Pitbull boomed from the stereos off the playlist of D.J. Jamal Smallz, Freshman Adam Kelsick showed his moves for some of 290 dancegoers, at this year's Homecoming Dance, October 3 at International House.

While rainy clouds loomed outside, U-Highers ignored the 52 degree nippy weather, arriving in a variety of fashions.

Girls' styles ranged from dark colored stilettos and short contemporary dresses, to metallic spandex and embellished blouses.

Boys opted for more casual looks, including blue jeans, colored shirts, and vibrant sneakers.

Silhouette posters drawn by Senior Lauren Uchima and streamers ornamented the I-House, all accenting the senior color, red.

"The silhouettes were Lauren Uchima and Amelia Acosta's idea," explained Cultural Union President Julia Baird. "We traced seniors in 'Gladiator and Goddess' like poses because that was our theme. I really enjoyed standing on stage during coronation and watching each grade go crazy shouting their grade year."

"Prom Committee also raised over \$400 selling refreshments, which was a huge success. Overall Homecoming went well, everyone seemed to be having a lot of fun, and everything went really smoothly."



Photo by Veronica Ramirez

GROOVING TO soundtracks played by D.J. Jamal Smallz including "Down" by Jay Sean featuring Lil' Wayne and "I Gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas, Adam Kelsick heats up the dance floor with 290 other dancegoers.



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

CLAD IN clean, classy getups with simple colored tops accompanied by jeans and sneakers, Sophomore Shane Veeneman, left, and Saint Ignatius guest Ryan Ross dressed to impress.



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

TOGA OUTFITS accented with metallic gold fashioned by Seniors Sydney Small and Amelia Acosta were complemented by hand made off-white togas worn by Seniors Lucas Bradley and Max Craig.



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

BREAKING AWAY from the senior class clothestheme "Gladiators and Goddesses," Mark Woerner, left, Zack Reneau-Wedeer, and Oliver Elfenbaum sported casual jerseys and faded jeans.



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

UNWINDING BEFORE the next dance, Seniors Clare Casey, left, and Kyra Sturgill worked the refreshments table, selling sodas shaped into '2010' to raise money for the Prom Committee.



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

HOMEcoming ROYALTY were nominated and voted for the week before and of Homecoming and crowned on stage in front of attendees cheering their class year. Royalty, from left, are Seniors Kaia Tammen and JR Mahung, Juniors

Christina Ahme and Wolfgang Foulkes, Sophomore Andrew Palmer, and Freshmen Justin Wanzung and Sarah Curci. Sophomore Queen Brenda Benetiz was not present.

6 Feature

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Classmates set up hometown business

■ With T-shirt enterprise, 2004ers celebrate Windy City images

By Adrian Aldana
Associate editor

Straight out of college with fresh ideas for a business, three U-High graduates, Laurent Varlet, Eddie Camacho and Jeffrey "JT" Thrall, Class of 2004, in April, 2008, started The Fineprint Chicago, their T-shirt design company, now in its second successful year of business.

Their business succeeds, they say, with high sales through advertising on blogs, Facebook and Twitter. Through their website, www.thefineprintchicago.com, they have taken orders from as far as Germany.

They began the business to introduce apparel about Chicago, for Chicagoans, to combat the copious "New York Yankees" hats and "I love Brooklyn" shirts worn by locals. Before their successful business, however, they were uncertain about their financial future.

"I CAME out of college (the University of Colorado at Boulder) with a degree in economics," Mr. Camacho said. "I was going to come out into a market that was practically dead. There was little I could do. I remember in college I was sitting,

taking a test and I just thought 'why don't we start a business?'

"I remember that text message to Laurent, 'Let's start a business'. We would just brainstorm during breaks from class through gmail chat."

Mr. Varlet, who had been designing T-shirts as a hobby, suggested the idea that began The Fineprint Chicago.

"I was cutting out stencils and making designs on T-shirts by air-brushing," Mr. Varlet said. "My sister, she had a visual arts major, said that I should start silk-screening. I came up with the T-shirt making idea, half seriously. When I brought the idea to Eddie, he liked it and we decided to do it. Soon we got JT on board."

WHAT BEGAN as a fledgling idea soon soared as they began to pool their resources for the business.

"At McGill University, I got a bachelor's degree in commerce and international management," Mr. Varlet said. "The degree definitely helped. I wrote up a business plan. We fortunately didn't need to take

out a loan. All three of us had some money saved. I had the printing and designing equipment in my house. Eddie had the web-design know-how. JT (who graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas) had connections in the printing industry."

With each person contributing his resources, friends and family also helped the business's growth.

"MY DAD is into photography," Mr. Varlet said. "It's nice to have him help with some of the designs or help with the photos on the website. Most of our models are Lab graduates."

Relying mostly on Mr. Varlet's ideas, The Fineprint Chicago creates imagination designs representative of Chicago.

One current design includes Chicago Bulls player Derrick Rose on the front side with the heading "The Future..." leading to the back side design showing Mr. Rose and the number one headed by "Is now."

Another features Mayor Daley, dressed in a pea coat and fedora hat, raising a tommy gun in his left hand with the words "Chicago is so gangster."

WHILE WORKING on the gangster design, Mr. Varlet explained the silkscreening process.

"You take a wood frame with a synthetic material that's stretched over the frame. In the dark room, you apply light sensitive chemicals on the synthetic material, the screen.

"Print out an image positive of your design on translucent paper, put it on the screen and expose the positive on the screen at the light table. It hardens the emulsion that's not on the graphic and the emulsion on the graphic stays soft.

"With a pressure washer, we blast it up. That way, the emulsion on the design is blasted off. For every color print, you need a different screen. Then you set one screen at each head on the press. Get a shirt on the board, put the screen directly on the shirt and ink on the screen and just squeegee the design on. Then you can move on to the next color and do the same thing."

THEN THEY DRY the water-based non-toxic ink with a heat gun.

They started small, the trio reminisces.

"Then I was silkscreening guerrilla style," Mr. Varlet explained. "The bathroom was the dark room and I used the shower as a pressure washer. We still use the bathroom as a dark room."

"Now little over a year, it took us nine months to get going," Mr. Camacho said. "First the website was

horrible. With time things become more refined."

"ONCE WE got our website up and running, it attracted lots of people," Mr. Varlet continued. "Demand has been going well.

"What happened was that one blog wrote about us, then other blogs wrote from that, and so on. There was this kind of viral marketing. Just from the Thrillist blog, we got over 1,000 hits on the website in one day. If you stick with something and have a good idea, it'll grow."



"The Fineprint's initial success is due in large part to the contributions of many Lab schoolers, not just us three."
—Laurent Varlet, Class of 2004



ON THIS PRESS, Eddie Camacho, JT Thrall and Laurent Varlet, Class of 2004, transfer their T-shirt designs to the shirts they create.



AFTER BLASTING the screen, Mr. Varlet holds it to the light, checking the design for transparency.



ADJUSTING THE head to fit the screen, Mr. Varlet prepares for printing.



INK ON the screen, Mr. Varlet squeegees a design onto a T-shirt.

Photos by Cathy Leiding



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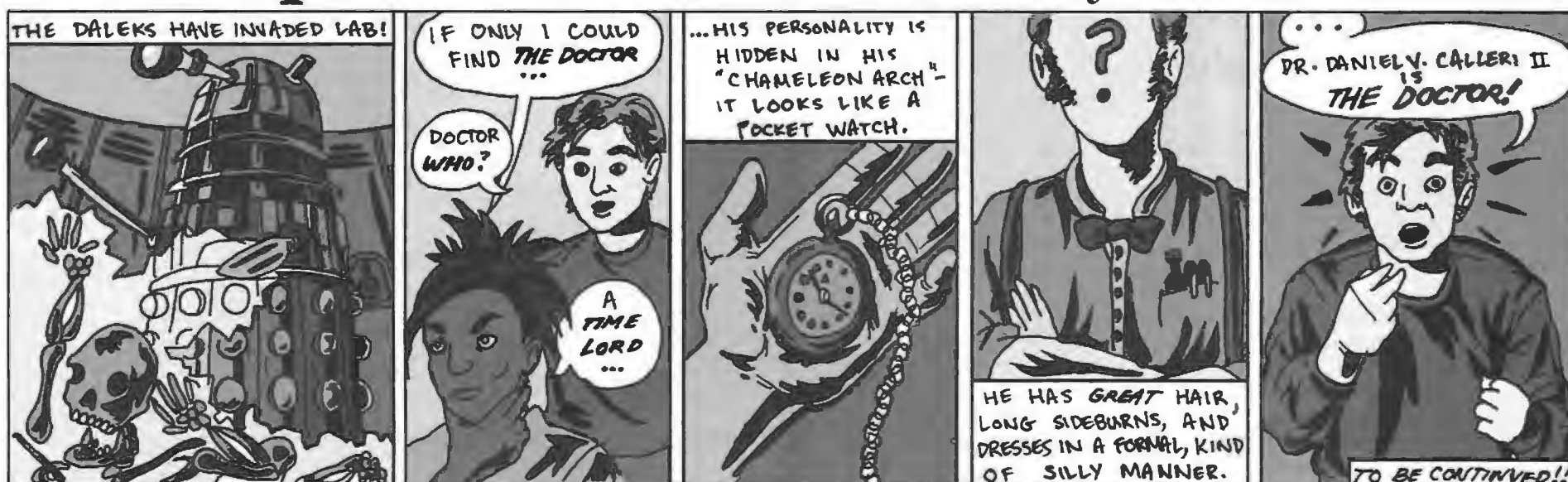
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"I trust and accept Dr. Calleri as my personal savior. I hope that explains it."
-Gene Cochrane, sophomore



Lorem Ipsum.....by Gene Cochrane



CHARACTER SKETCH BY RACHEL SYLORA

He knows math, pyschology and helping students succeed

By Rachel Sylora
Associate Editor

As Director of Student Services, Mr. Kenneth James works to help students with learning differences.

But before coming to Lab Schools he taught at universities in Chicago and Virginia for 33 years.



Art by Gene Cochrane

MR. KENNETH JAMES

A Chicago native, Mr. James majored in mathematics and speech during college at Northeastern University and attended graduate school at Northwestern University.

BY THE time he finished graduate school, he earned a Bachelor's Degree in math, a Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Communicative Disorders and a diploma in analytical psychology.

"I have always done two or three things at once," Mr. James explained, sporting a yellow polka dotted tie, blue collared shirt and black slacks in his Judd Hall office.

"Halfway through graduate school, I decided to change majors after hearing about a subfield of the Communicative Disorders field, Learning Disabilities, which focuses on different disorders such as language and emotional disorders."

MOVING TO Virginia after graduate school, Mr. James taught at Old Dominion University for a year.

"I missed Chicago too much, so I moved back to teach Special Education for two years at Roosevelt University," Mr. James said.

"After that, for 30 years I directed the Children's Service Center at Northeastern University and hosted diagnostic

clinics while training graduate students in Communicative Disorders."

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE with Lab Schools students led Mr. James to apply for a job at the school.

"While teaching at Northeastern, I also worked at the Children's Memorial Hospital in an early intervention project to help diagnose kids with learning disabilities. I remembered that a few of those kids were from Lab. The school was the ideal setting for me.

"So in 2008 I applied for this new position and started in July."

WORKING WITH learning specialists, counselors, parents, teachers and

students, Mr. James said he tries to improve communication in aiding struggling students.

"In the High School, the most important thing is to work clearly and directly with the student and consult with teachers. Nothing I suggest alters the curriculum of courses.

"THE STUDENTS at Lab are different from other students in that they are very proactive. Students take the first step. Also, everyone is concerned about all of our students succeeding.

"It's not a matter of something wrong with a student, but that students have different learning needs and styles."

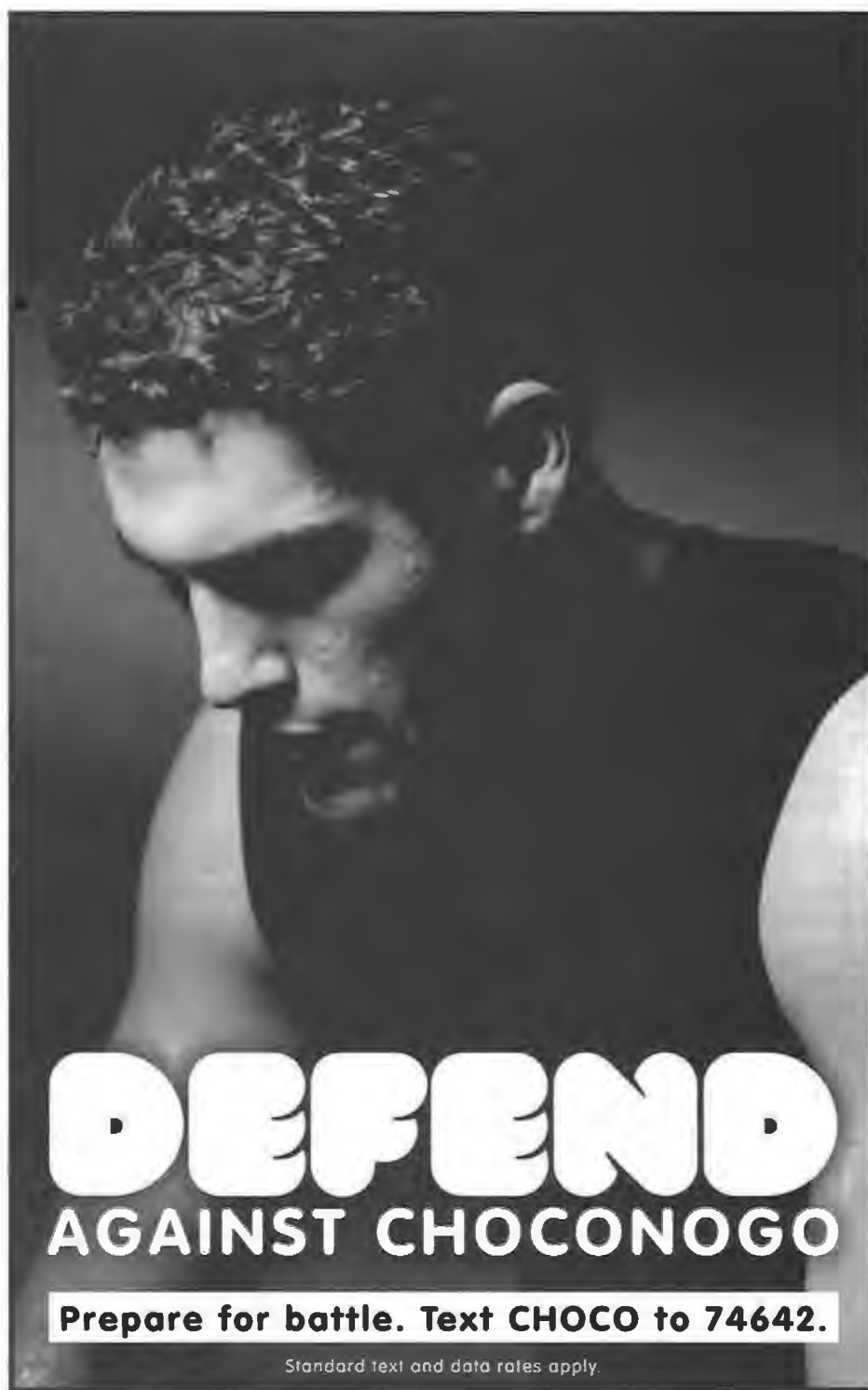


Photo by Adam Gelman

THEY WERE THERE

RECALLING THEIR memories of Buchenwald concentration camp, three former U.S. Army soldiers, a medic's widow and a Holocaust survivor related anecdotes and morals to U-Highers, teachers and parents in a lunchtime discussion sponsored by Jewish Students' Association October 2. The soldiers, 120th Evacuation Hospital company members, attended to Buchenwald survivors after its liberation. Lower School Teacher Donna McFarlane, whose late father was a company medic, arranged for the five speakers to come to Lab Schools during the annual 120th company reunion, in Chicago this year.

In the photo, 120th Company Member Bill Deierhol presents his story while his Army colleague Carl Lee and Ms. Bea Kershenblatt, a medic's widow, listen. Also participating were 120th Company Member John Schnieder and Buchenwald Survivor John Bergeisen, who was saved by 120th company medics and read a letter he wrote to his rescuers.

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

Student government packs some good old Chicago clout

■ *Jack Brewer makes good on a promise with admirable results*

For years, Student Council members have sauntered through office terms without challenging administrative decisions or fighting for the student voice.

But no more. BEFORE GETTING into details, let's rewind to May 2009.

After student band Manchid was prohibited from performing Phil Medley and Bert Russell's rock 'n' roll hit "Twist and Shout" at Commencement, the Midway railed on the U-High community because no one stepped up to fight for their cause.

Last year, as it has before, the Midway pointed out Student Council's recent history as a nice civics project but not a force for a stronger student voice and power in the school.

WITHIN WEEKS of taking office, the newly-elected Student Council officers sent a letter to Lab Schools' Director David Magill, saying they would not help with school events this year unless administrators let the band play.

Their ploy was unsuccessful. But they didn't give up.

This fall, Student Council President Jack Brewer continued to argue for a way to incorporate student input into Commencement program choices.

AFTER THREE meetings with administrators, Student

Council officers, Principal Matthew Horvat and Dean of Students Larry McFarlane agreed to create a student-faculty committee to review Commencement programs if Graduation Committee members and administrators disagree.

In exchange, S.C. members helped out at the Admissions Open House.

"Last year, the Steering Committee voted, but they were ignored and administrators had the final say," Jack said. "That's not right."

"OF COURSE, students cannot and should not have the final say in graduation programs, but it's our graduation and we should have some power to decide what goes on."

Mr. Magill said in a Midway interview October 12 that it was the school's responsibility to set the tone for Commencement, and the limited appeal of "Twist and Shout" had no place there.

Yet Mr. Horvat received letters from alumni wishing their graduation had included festive songs such as "Twist and Shout."

And former teachers and alumni wrote to Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler pointing out the school and city's history of blues and rock 'n' roll performance.

BUT A SONG about dancing is not the focus here.

The S.C. compromise represents a landmark accomplishment.



Art by Gene Cochrane

Student Council officers are not shying away from conflict, and they're not scared to challenge administrators.

They're singing a new tune and standing up for students and getting things done. It's a beginning.

OPINION ANDREW SYLORA

Dishing up some thoughts on a long-gone specialty

THERE'S SOMETHING missing at U-High.

No, it's not yesterday's math assignment, or candy bars, or even a security guard's desk. It's a class many long-time Lab Schoolers took back in Middle School, a class that remains just a memory from their days in the red locker-lined halls of Blaine.

Home economics.

SURE, SOME U-Highers still cook as a hobby or knit the occasional hat or two. But in a discussion over Facebook with recent U-High graduates, I asked what one thing they wished U-High offered.

Maybe it was a class they wished they didn't have to take at the University of Chicago, or a club that didn't become inactive or dormant. Or something they found useful in college that didn't register until they arrived at campus.

Among the top responses: How to cook, and mending holes in clothing.

THOUGH CURRENTLY only offered in the Middle Schools, U-High had a home economics class up until the late 1980's, when the program was dropped from the required curriculum as a result of decreased enrollment and the creation of the Fine Arts department. The new department also eliminated woodworking, and made journalism its own separate department.

But with expanded curriculum offerings, increased enrollment, and new facilities on the horizon with the Lab+ Initiative, overlooking the skills involved in cooking a meal or hemming a pair of pants goes against the school's mission statement of mastering important subject matter.

No amount of core academic classes can substitute learning the practical skills needed to live comfortably day to day at institutions of higher learning, often away from the comforts of home.

IN A SCHOOL that prides itself on preparing its students for the rigors of college, classes such as home economics should be re-implemented to provide not only abilities U-Highers will eventually need, but to accentuate the well-rounded education U-High takes so much pride in.

It's true when I head off to college I probably will survive on a diet of ramen noodles, and not give much thought to that expanding hole on the side of my jeans. But when the time comes that I crave something other than generic cafeteria food, or others notice that gaping hole in my pants, maybe I will sit down and think to myself.

I wish I learned how to do that at U-High.



Andrew

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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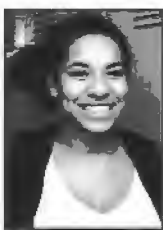
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SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Benny Wah

What are you doing this Halloween?



Sarah



Wolfgang



JR



Alejandra

SARAH LLOYD, senior: I really don't know yet. Probably not much, but I'm hoping that I'll hang out with friends from other schools or around my neighborhood in the South Loop. We might go to a party.

WOLFGANG FOULKES, junior: I'm going to a costume party in Brookfield at my friend's house. I hope to have a fun night partying it up.

JONATHAN "JR" REED, sophomore: I'm probably going to hang out with some friends, maybe dress up a little. I may trick-or-treat some for free candy but some people might not give it out to me because I'm pretty big. I'll have to be sneaky.

ALEJANDRA GUEVARA, freshman: I don't know right now, but I'm thinking about dressing up as something and chilling with some friends. It should be a really fun night though!

Secrets of making a really ripping red sauce

A robust autumn staple gets a clever short-cut to save time

AS THE SUMMER fades, and the autumn chill settles, we are stuck in a culinary purgatory. While not yet cold enough to crave the rich, warming stews of winter, the refreshing meals of summer fail to take the chill from our bones.

Simple Italian red sauce is a staple of our lives. Apart from freezing perfectly for last-minute meals, it's robust, warming and well-suited for the cold, while the acid of the tomatoes keeps it light and not overwhelmingly rich.

The only downside to this sauce is that it takes time to make, time I don't always have. There is a quick alternative to the hour-long stewing process, and for that you will need the following ingredients:



Nick

- Two to three packs of plum or cherry tomatoes
- One large white onion
- Four cloves of garlic
- Olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- One tsp Basil
- And ¼ cup of red wine

THE KEY to this recipe is the type of tomato we employ. The sweeter cherry or plum varieties don't require the long stew typical of your normal sauce.

To begin, finely mince your onion and garlic. To avoid unnecessary tears, cover the cut onion with a towel or aluminum foil. A trick to mincing garlic is to smash it with the flat side of your knife first.

Next, wash the tomatoes before slicing them in half. I like to give them a nice rough chop after that to make my sauce smoother but that step can be left out according to your personal tastes. Sweat your onion and garlic in a large saucepan until translucent (for details on sweating read the October 28, 2008 Midway column on chili).



Photos by Adam Gelman

FRESH TOMATO SAUCE (photos from left) and well-cooked pasta combine for Nick Chaskin's simple and delicious meal. But before digging in to his tantalizing fare... **HE ADDS** his secret ingredient, crushed red pepper flakes. Dinner is served!

Add your tomatoes and basil and let the mixture stew over low heat until the tomatoes are soft and covered by their own juices. With a wooden spoon or potato masher, crush the tomatoes into a sauce-like texture.

ADD THE WINE (the alcohol will cook out) and start seasoning to taste. I like to put in crushed red pepper flakes for a slight kick.

Begin to boil your pasta, fettuccine, spaghetti or linguine would serve best. I have found that the average person fails at making pasta on a regular basis; usually they end up with clumps of pasta stuck together.

Let me take the opportunity to set a few things straight; adding oil to your water won't prevent the

pasta from sticking. Come on people, this is U-High! We should know that all the oil will do is float on the surface of the water.

THE REASON PASTA will clump is because people use too little water to cook it in. When there isn't enough room for the pasta to spread out and do its thing, it ends up sticking together. Never cook pasta in less than one gallon of water, and add more water for large amounts of pasta, I would say about a pint per serving.

Always remember to salt your cooking water; this will really enhance the natural flavors of the dish. If you follow these simple rules, you will have perfect pasta every time (as long as you don't cook it into a paste).

FILM SPENCER LEE Action comedy-drama drags a bit

SKATING THROUGH SCENES of fighting, partying, and the occasional sad and difficult moments, "Whip It!" packs plenty of girl power into an action comedy-drama.

Ellen Page plays the lead role of Bliss Cavendar, a rebellious teenage girl similar to the one she played in "Juno."

Bliss is a teenager trying to live an exciting life in Bodeen, a small suburb of Austin, Texas, while struggling to live up to her mother's expectations.

The PG-13 movie opens with Bliss competing in the Miss Blue Bonnet beauty pageant, something her 1950's style mother (Marcia Gay Harden) had participated in years ago and wanted her to be a part of. But underneath Bliss's spotless white gown lies a restless soul trying to discover a life with more spark than Bodeen.

On a shopping trip to Austin with her mother, Bliss sees a flyer for Roller Derby, an aggressive skating competition. Bliss attends a game with her friend, Pash (Alia Shawkat) on a brisk Saturday night, and she's hooked after seeing the rough treatment the Hurl Scouts (the name of a team competing in Roller Derby) display



Spencer

against their opponents.

This is what she has been searching for her whole life. Knowing that her tightly laced parents would never allow her to play such a dangerous sport, Bliss tells them that an SAT class is taking up her time and escapes to Austin with Pash to practice and play. The plot flows onward with Bliss fighting for the Hurl Scouts, and living out her new double life.

Also skating through the movie, director and costar Drew Barrymore integrates her talent for acting as a "bad girl" into her role as "Smashley" Simpson. Playing alongside her is Maggie Mayhem (Kristen Wiig), a tough older lady also competing for the Hurl Scouts.

As most of these action comedy-dramas turn out, a problem is developed in the story, and Bliss has to make the right decisions to set both her lives straight. Exactly 111 minutes long, "Whip It!" entertains, but as it drags on trying to solve every problem presented, audiences will grow impatient in their seats.

Choreography of the competitions is well done, and the audience is given its wacky jokes and punch lines, but in the end it just isn't a movie to see over again. Drew Barrymore superbly directs Bliss' role, but with even with her excellent acting and directing, the movie still drags on for a little too long, and the script does not live up to the directing.

MUSIC ANDY ZHENG Great debut from band which bends, blends genres

"ECLECTIC" DOESN'T even begin to describe the sound. Taking ideas from ethnic South African music, reggae, jazz, and every kind of rock from folk to metal, South African prog-rock band BLK JKS' debut album, September's "After Robots" (Secretly Canadian), puts together a style that defies classification.

Founded in 2000 by a group of self-taught friends, BLK JKS (pronounced "Black Jacks") made their recording debut with the single "Lakeside."

A chance meeting with American



Andy

producer Diplo in 2008 soon brought the four-man group from Johannesburg onto the international music scene. Indie rock label Secretly Canadian signed them in late 2008, leading to the March 2009 release of the EP "Mystery."

Influenced by artists as varied as Pink Floyd and Sun Ra, the group puts together a style that's high-energy, guitar-laced and full of time changes, treading between Fela Kuti and Jimi Hendrix.

The album starts off on a high note with "Molalatladi." From the high-impact drum intro to the swaying 6/8 groove, the multiple language vocals to guitarist Mpumi Mcata's scorching solos, all of BLK JKS' trademarks are showcased.

Mixing African roots and Western influences, this is some of BLK JKS most inventive material.

But while a lot of "After Robots"

personality comes from its musical diversity, their mix-and-match style isn't always well executed. The album feels like a haphazard collection of songs without any unifying theme, and while some individual tracks are excellent, others like "Taxidermy" and "Lakeside" add up to gargantuan patchworks of pent-up ideas, frenetic, noisy and overdone.

These issues aside, "After Robots" is a fine debut album, showing off the group's innovative music with style. As a concept album, it may be too experimental to draw the casual listener at first, with only a couple head-nodders and a lot of instrumental work.

Multiple listens will prove rewarding though, and for serious music fans, heavy arrangements and explosive rhythms definitely make this album worth picking up.

SMART TALK RAFI KHAN

More math fun for some (the others are out of luck)

THE MOST EXCITING and frustrating thing about mathematics: You're always finding stuff you can't understand.

I had such an experience, which students in Math Teacher Rosa McCullagh's A.P. Statistics class might relate to, when she showed me this:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left(\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \leq z \right) = \Phi(z)$$

ONCE I regained consciousness, Ms. McCullagh explained that this monster was the Central Limit Theorem, a centerpiece of probability theory and statistics.

First formally proven in 1733 by Abraham de Moivre, the theorem tells us that...well, I admit I don't understand it myself.

I'll let Ms. McCullagh do the honors.



Rafi

"SUPPOSE YOU want to know the average age of all the pennies in circulation," Ms. McCullagh explained. "Now say you pick a sample of size n, and take its average; for example you pick 10 pennies and find their average is five years.

"If you did that many more times, you'll get different averages, say 6 or 4 or 3.7. The Central Limit Theorem says if you take an infinite number of averages and plot those values, 5, 4, 3.7, etc., they will fall on a normal, bell-shaped distribution.

"THIS IS WHAT allows statisticians to take limited data and infer about much larger things. It's what allows polls to make claims about the general population by only sampling a small section, and calculating margins of error.

"Imagine that people are just like the pennies in the previous example and their answers can be expressed numerically. Their responses, when averaged and plotted, would fall on a normal distribution. From there, we can find the overall mean, the standard distribution and lots of other cool stuff.

"The beauty of the theorem rests in how it holds no matter what you're polling, pennies or people.

"THAT'S WHY it's so powerful."

10 City Life

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009



"I've been going to these museums for years, it was a welcome change to be able to document other families enjoying the museum campus."
—Loren Kole, senior

From dinosaurs to sea to space in one place

■ Museum Campus offers galaxy of experiences

By Nick Phalen
Associate editor

Weaving through hordes of Bears fans exiting Soldier Field, Sophomore Sydney Scarlata and Senior Loren Kole were swept into a tide of orange and blue as they strolled across the Museum Campus on a blustery Sunday afternoon in early October.

On Lake Michigan at 13th Street and Lake Shore Drive, the Campus provides a home for the Field Museum of Natural History, John G. Shedd Aquarium and Adler Planetarium. Its roots reach back to 1911, when the South Park Commission, now the Chicago Park District, extended the shore line of Lake Michigan eastward, creating space to build the Field in 1921.

ARCHITECT MIKE STIRK created the Campus in 1998 when the Chicago Park District hired him to create a unified space for the three museums. The project involved moving the northbound lanes of Lake Shore Drive west of Soldier Field.

Mr. Stirk is now the head of the Design and Build Department at Christopher B. Burke Engineering in suburban Rosemont.

"The main goal of the project was to get the three museums out of the median of the drive," he explained in a phone interview. "It cost \$110 million, but everyone agreed that it needed to be done. As it was, three of the city's biggest cultural attractions were being separated by a major highway. It ended up being a great idea, though, because people like calm environments, and often times people want to go to two museums and that's a lot easier now than it used to be."

HAVING OPENED during the World's Columbian Exhibition in 1893 at the current site of the Museum of Science and Industry, the Field was relocated in 1921. According to Public Relations Director Nancy O'Shea, the Field draws around 1.3 million people every year.

Upon entering the Field, the three U-Highers were shocked by their view of Sue, a 13-foot-tall dinosaur fossil mounted with its mouth open and ready to pounce.

While observing Sue, the most complete Tyrannosaurus Rex fossil in the world, the U-Highers noticed Isaiah, a 7-year-old Iowan, clad in a miniature Chicago Bears windbreaker, so excited he couldn't stand still.

ISAIAH'S FATHER, Paul, a well-built 27-year-old man with a bright orange blanket draped over his shoulder, looked on with a smile as his



CLAD IN BLUE and orange Chicago Bears attire, Candi Cheville, visiting from Waverly, Iowa, kneels close to the ground to snap a photo of her son Isaiah, 7, and Alexis, 5, in front of the ferocious dinosaur, Sue, in the lobby in the field museum. Named after the Paleontologist who discovered her, Sue is the most complete T-Rex fossil in the world.

wife Candi attempted to wrangle Isaiah and his five-year-old sister Alexis together for a photo.

"It's amazing. We drove here all the way from Waverly, and paid \$175 for Bears tickets, but then while we were in the stadium, all he could talk about was seeing the dinosaur," Paul said laughing.

"Last time we came they even had people out in the hall with fossil replicas you could touch. Isaiah loved that. He wants to work here. Ever since he was 3-years-old and he knew the word *paleontologist* he's been saying he wanted to work here."

AFTER WALKING along a shrubbery-lined path in the brisk autumn air, the change to a warm, humid interior in the Shedd Aquarium was pleasant.

Echoing with the sounds of Beluga Whales breaching the surface of their tanks and Harbor Seals barking and moaning, the Shedd Aquarium's newly-renovated 170,000 square foot Oceanarium provided the U-Highers with a spectacular view of the churning blue water of Lake Michigan.

In a gallery just down the hall Matt, a heavyset, bald Chicago Bears fan from Southern Wisconsin, tried to speak as his 5-year-old son Eli dragged his father to his favorite displays.

"USUALLY ME and my wife just come down here alone and go to the museums and the game," Matt said while Eli tugged the sleeve of his shirt. "I think this is about my third time here, but the first time I've brought Eli here, though."

"He really liked the theater downstairs. We saw a SpongeBob show that he liked quite a bit. Really it's a fabulous facility

and it's good every time we come down. I'm glad I brought Eli this time."

Strolling to the end of Solidarity Drive, the three U-Highers glimpsed the Adler Planetarium with its dark teal dome contrasting the bright blue, cloudless sky. After entering the 88-year-old museum, once the only planetarium in the Western Hemisphere, the U-Highers observed a proportional model of the solar system, complete with a floor-to-ceiling model of the sun.

PERUSING THE displays under the giant models of the planets, 27-year-old Alexia examined a model of a meteorite, running her fingers over the dimples and cracks in the metal.

"I'm an aerospace student in Atlanta, but originally I'm from France," Alexia explained. "I'm here for the weekend with some of my classmates so we can learn from the museums. Obviously, I really like space, so I enjoyed the museum a lot."



SHADOWED BY enormous floor-to-ceiling models of the sun and planets (above) Casey, 12, from Cleveland, Ohio visits the Adler Planetarium with her grandparents. Exploring the world around the sun, she creates her own unique solar system using an interactive computer game offered in the Solar System exhibit.

VIBRANT, UNDERWATER coral gardens (left) intrigue Ned and Carol, visiting Chicago on business from Monterey, California, as they read a detailed description in the wild reef exhibit, one of many attractions offered at the Shedd Aquarium.



Photos by Loren Kole

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Photo by Sarah Lloyd

PICKING SOME luscious avocados after selecting a soothing Nantucket Nectar orange juice, Justin Algee finds delicious relief at the U.M. after a stressful day.

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"Electronic music is kind of like trying to bike in a swimming pool. You'll have to take my word for it."
—P.T. Bell, senior

U-High musicians plug in, electrify

Computers, synths define music genre

By Tommy Wile
Associate editor

Walking into a typical high school music classroom, one might expect to see photographs of legendary composers and conductors, collections of orchestral instruments, or rows of music stands.

Music Instructor Dominic Piane's electronic music classroom has none of that. Instead, computers, synthesizers, even a theremin line the small 2nd floor room in Belfield Hall.

Over the last decade, electronic music, a style that uses artificial sounds coming from computers and synthesizers, has grown into a popular genre among U-Highers.

STARTING AS a supplement to the A.P. Music Theory Class in the late 90s, Electronic Music Studio has become a fully independent class with its own curriculum.

"Right now we're at the point where we are a full production studio," Mr. Piane said. "We can not only create all our music, we can computerize it. Burn it off to C.D. We can mass-produce the C.D. We can even do the artwork on the C.D. So it's full production."

Several U-High bands and solo composers take turns using the EMS, as regulars call the studio.

HAVING COMPOSED more than 150 electronic music pieces in four years, Senior P.T. Bell credits Mr. Piane and his class with increasing his interest and talent for electronic music.

"Mr. P has a whole bunch of stuff that's really powerful for an electronic musician or sound engineer's viewpoint," P.T.

said. "The learning curve is pretty high, but he does his best to make sure that all of his students understand the program as best as possible."

INFLUENCED BY the electronic sounds of The Grateful Dead, Emerson, and others, P.T. appreciates electronic music's flexibility.

"I was like, 'God, these guys are emotive and powerful, and I want to be them so I can make people feel things,'" P.T. said. "It also allows me to do a lot of stuff that in real life would be totally impossible. Like I can make crazy intervals that no violinist could ever make."

"Electronic music allows for premeditation," P.T. said. "You can map things out — make everything that you want to have happen, happen — and make it happen to a T."

ALONG WITH Senior and rapper Ian Hundiak, P.T. has uploaded 10 singles and one album onto his MySpace page.

"P.T. does deserve credit for every beat that comes with my voice on it," Ian said. "I have about 300 of his beats in my library, even though I've only used about 15 or so now. He doesn't want any compensation. He just wants recognition."

Another U-High band, Seeking Common Ground, consists of four junior boys who also utilize the studio for production.

"WE HAVE Austin Morris who beat-boxes, and Julian du Buclet and Ian Everson, who both make beats and rap," said Junior Sam Frampton, who also makes beats for the group. "They use

IN A TYPICAL start to any electronic piece, Sam Frampton lays down the chords with his guitar.

heavy drums, a lot of synthesizers, some use of auto-tune, a lot of samples from old school R&B.

"Julian and Ian use Reason which is this sequencing software. They have FL Studio, which lets you record stuff through a microphone and helps you arrange all the sound samples from records. Austin uses Recycle which is basically just taking a sample and adding what-

ever effects you need, and then you just fine tune it however you want."

A compact electronic music history

By Andrew Zheng
Music editor

From the watery tone of an auto-tuned voice to the distinctive "wah" of a phased guitar, electronic sounds appear ubiquitously in today's popular music.

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, the first electronic instrument, Thomas Cahill's Telharmonium in 1897, weighed up to 200 tons. With the 1919 advent of the Theremin, compositions for electronic instruments emerged, written for the classical repertoire.

Hammond's organ, introduced as an alternative to pipe organs in 1929, popularized electronic sounds in jazz, R&B and rock music.

The 1930s through 1950s marked an ex-

perimental stage for electronic music, producing avant-garde compositions with little popular appeal. Synthesizers began to appear in popular music with Robert Moog's 1967 invention, the first commercially viable synthesizer.

These "synths" gained widespread use in the 1970s, and electronic substitutes appeared for acoustic instruments, such as drum machines and the Electronic Wind Instrument.

With the rise of personal computing in the 1980s, computers took a central role in electronic music. Professional artists today use programs like AcidPro and FL Studio to create and mix tracks, while styles such as techno are composed using only computer-generated sounds.

GUEST CRITIC J.R. MAHUNG

This 'Mouse' is a giant mascot, but he ain't no Chuck E. Cheese

THE MAN rubs the unkempt stubble on his face with his palm. Inhaling deeply, he downs another swig of Guinness, a liquid cure for stage fright. As he takes the stage he fastens his mouse helmet.

No, this is not an introverted Chuck 'E' Cheese's employee, but rather the producer extraordinaire DJ Danger Mouse,

the producer half of duo Gnarls Barkley, the creators of 2006's "Crazy."

Danger Mouse, real name Brian Burton, made his record debut with his 2003 release "Ghetto Pop Life," an album with Brooklyn rapper Jemini. But it was "The Grey Album,"

his mashup of Jay-Z's acappellas from "The Black Album" and samples from the Beatles' "The White Album" that brought Danger Mouse to prominence a year later.

Danger Mouse shows some of his best work on the second track of the album, contrasting Jay's trademark braggadocio, "I can't let a day go by without me being fly. Fresh to death—head to toe—'til the day I rest" from "What More Can I Say" over the lamenting piano keys and George Harrison's crooning vocals

from the Beatles' "While My Guitar Gently Weeps." The highlight of the album comes five tracks in with Dangermouse's take of "99 Problems," utilizing Paul McCartney's and George Harrison's aggressive bass and frantic guitar from "Helter Skelter" to create a backing suitable for Jay-Z's confrontational lyrics.

Danger Mouse shows his versatility outside of hip-hop in his work with Gorillaz, a fictional cartoon pop band. On Gorillaz' sophomore album "Demon Days," Danger Mouse produces songs from multiple genres ranging from punk, as displayed on "White Light," to electronic dance on "DARE" and alternative hip-hop on the Grammy winning single "Feel Good Inc." featuring the rap trio De La Soul.

On his most recent work with alternative rock band Sparklehorse, "Danger Mouse and Sparklehorse Present: Dark Night of the Soul," Danger Mouse shows a full understanding of rock as a music genre, creating compositions ranging from twanging ballads to noise rock for guest vocalists including Julian Casablancas and Iggy Pop to sing over. The album can be heard in its entirety on the National Public Radio website.

Danger Mouse's upcoming album will feature Black Thought, lead MC of The Roots, a Philadelphia rap band.



Photos by Lucille Benoit

ARMED WITH professional quality Digital Performer software, Ian Hundiak, in the background, and P.T. Bell concoct a fresh beat.



J.R.

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MIDWAY sports

PAGE THIRTEEN

U-HIGH MIDWAY ■ TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009

Volleyballers take on tough foe

Maroons view Regional match with TF North as a motivator

By Jordan Einhorn
Midway reporter

With confidence from a 3rd place Independent School League ranking and a developed defensive line, 26th seeded girls varsity volleyballers will battle 8th seeded Thornton Fractional North at Regionals, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, at home. Varsity stands at 9-4 excluding tournament games as of Midway deadline.

Coach Lisa Miller sees the opportunity for her team to play challenging Thornton as a plus.

"WE PLAY better when playing harder teams because we elevate our play to their level," she explained.

"We did not play with enough confidence during this season. We would get out of rhythm and not be able to get back into it. We have improved upon this through many drills and scrimmages and now have much more confidence in ourselves and our team."

Having played strong competition before in ISL rivals Latin, the girls know what to expect against Thornton, according to Senior Kiara Davis, cocaptain with Senior Katherine Holt.

"We lost to Latin because we weren't used to having such strong hitters on the other team," Kiara said. "We are working on our hitting but also on our defense. Now we know what type of playing to expect."

Holding a 3-7 record as of last Thursday, j.v. credits practice drills for improvement after a tough 1-5 start, says Captain Michelle Ng, sophomore.

"We improved on our pass-serve this season because we focused on that the most during practice," Michelle said. "Our hitting skills improved dramatically as well because we incorporated them into pregame warm-ups. We showed significant im-



Photo by Anisha Sisodia

EXCHANGING CONGRATULATIONS on a hard-earned point at Elgin Academy, October 15, the Maroons went on nevertheless to lose 25-21, 18-25, 25-21 to the Hilltoppers.

provements when we played Elgin a second time. We played them at the beginning of the season and lost."

Scores are as follows:
Nazareth Academy, September 1, home: Varsity lost 13-25, 17-25, j.v. lost 25-15, 25-14; **North Shore Country Day**, September 8, home: Varsity won 25-21, 25-21, j.v. lost 25-19, 13-25, 25-23; **Francis Parker**, September 15, away: Varsity won 25-9, 25-16, j.v. won 25-13, 25-19; **Elgin Academy**, September 17, away: Varsity won 25-21, 25-27, 25-17, j.v. lost 14-25, 24-26; **Willows Academy**, September 22, away: Varsity won 25-10, 25-16, j.v. lost 21-25, 18-25; **Latin School**, September 25, home: Varsity lost 18-25, 15-25, j.v. lost 20-25, 25-7, 25-9; **Morgan Park Academy**, September 29, away: Varsity lost 13-25, 20-25; **North Shore Country Day School**, October 2, away: Varsity won 25-15, 25-17, j.v. won 18-25, 25-21; **Woodlands**, October 6, away: Varsity lost 25-21, 23-25, 17-25, j.v. lost 10-25, 13-25; **Elgin Academy**, October 13, home: Varsity lost 25-21, 18-25, 25-21, j.v. won 25-23, 13-25, 18-25; **Willows Academy**, October 16, home: Varsity won 25-18, 25-15; **Francis Parker**, October 19, home: Varsity won 25-21, 25-4.

Swimmer top three placing will earn girls a close shave...on the coach

By Sydney Scarlata
Associate editor

Motivating girl swimmers as they advance towards Sectionals, Saturday, November 14 against tough competitors including Latin, Whitney Young and St. Ignatius, Varsity Coach Mike Cunningham has promised to shave his head and legs for a top three finish.

With a 3-3 record as of last Thursday, the Maroons are preparing for a rematch against Bishop McNamara today at home after a triumphant 211-40 win October 6.

"I am very happy with the performance of the team against Bishop McNamara," Coach Mike said. "It was our biggest win this season and we had 98 percent best times against them, though the girls swam in unfamiliar events."

With only three meets lefts, Coach Mike aims for swimmers to drop time and potentially break the six-year 50 freestyle and 12-year 200 free relay school records.

"The girls are super dedicated to dropping time and doing well," Coach Mike said. "We had 88 percent best times at Lane Tech, and 90 percent

best times against Latin only three days later. So far, swimmers have made the all time top ten list in four events this season, including Sophomores Catherine Yunis and Sydney Scarlata, Freshman Annette Cochran and Senior Kaia Tammen in the 200 free relay, Kaia Tammen in the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle and Sophomore Sydney Scarlata in the 100 breaststroke."

Looking towards developing their relay starts, j.v. hopes to improve scores, according to Freshman Jessica Gimpel.

"The team has been working really hard, and dropping time all season," Jessica said. "We need to work on improving our relay starts. If we can quicken our jumps off the block, we can be more competitive with our opponents and have a better overall score at the end of the meet."

Recent results are as follows:
Lane Technical High School, away, September 29: Varsity lost 49-121; j.v. lost 54-114 **Latin School**, home, October 2: Varsity lost 53-118; j.v. lost 47-97 **Bishop McNamara/Lake Forest Academy**, home, October 6: Varsity won 211-40, j.v. won 207-57



With her high school career devoted to breaking U-High's 50 meter freestyle record, Senior Kaia Tammen unofficially topped '90 graduate Catherine Cantwell's 25.83 second time with her 25.66 relay time at the Maine East Invitational, October 17.

Swim team cocaptain, Kaia intends to become the second U-High girl to qualify for State.

"Earlier in the year, I swam a 25.84,

just .01 off the record. It was frustrating at the time, but it motivated me even more."

Kaia spent time in the pool during the off season, but not always trying to cut time.

"I worked for Adventure kids during the day and then the Summer Lab swim camp in the afternoon each weekday," Kaia explained. "It was nice to work for my coach, Mike Cunningham. I felt much better working for him nine hours a day than I would anyone else. I felt like I was paying him back in a way for being so loyal to me."

Tennis girls make history

By Rachel Sylora
Associate editor

Clinching their third consecutive Sectional Title, five varsity tennis girls, led by Captain Gabbie Clark, senior, headed to play in the State Tournament last Thursday, with hopes of improving on last year's 20th place finish.

Undefeated against Independent School League opponents, the Maroons made history by winning Sectionals October 15 at home after tying for 1st with North Shore Country Day at the ISL Championships, October 10 at Stagg Courts. They entered the State tournament with an 8-3 overall record. Gabbie, who placed in the top 20 at State last season, says the team's chances hinge on their opponents.

"It all depends on if we get good draws in the State tournament," she explained. "Some of the girls who played doubles last year play singles this year. My doubles partner from this summer, Julia Fellerhoff from Deerfield High School, and my friend Tina Harazin from LaGrange High School, both finished in the top six of the doubles draw at State last year and are in the singles draw this year, so they should stand out."

J.V. ended with a 9-2 record, 6-0 in ISL.

"The success of the team came from focused practices," Coach Julijana Lazarevich said. "Our team has remarkable individual self discipline as well as a great team energy. Two incredible players at first doubles together were Freshman Hannah Resnick and Sophomore Kavia Khosla."

Scores of recent matches are as follows:
Woodlands, home, September 30: Varsity won 4-1, j.v. won 5-0. **Elgin Academy**, home, October 5: Varsity won 5-0, j.v. won 5-0. **North Shore Country Day**, away, October 7: Varsity won 4-1, j.v. won 5-0. Independent School League Conference, home, October 10: Varsity tied for 1st out of 7 teams. Stagg, away, October 13: Varsity lost 2-3, j.v. won 3-2.

CHILLIN' and WARMIN' UP at the Med



Photo by Sarah Lloyd

ESCAPING A chilly October afternoon, Shacara Ledbetter scans the menu while warming up with a Medici hot chocolate.

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"Sarah Curci is undeniably one of the best runners I've seen since joining cross country."
-Sherry Fu, girls' cross country cocaptain

Levin becomes second U-High golfer to break into State competition

By Andrew Sylora
Editor-in-Chief

With an individual score of 81 at the Illinois High School Association Sectionals October 12 at Broken Arrow in Lockport, Senior Evan Levin, captain, became the second U-Higher golfer after '07 graduate Nick Kogelman to qualify for State, October 15 at Weibring Golf Course in Bloomington.

Varsity golfers ended their season with a 9th place finish at Sectionals, while Evan went on to score a 175 at the State Championship.

Losing three seniors, next year's team hopes to build upon underclassmen talent.

"All of the incumbents have gotten and will continue to get better," Matt continued. "We also have some promising raw talent on the junior varsity squad, and we are hoping that we can put together a formidable team for next year."

Placing 7th of eight, golfers fielded their first ever Girls Regionals team October 7 at Old Oak Country Club.

The lineup of two sophomores and three freshmen, all j.v., was determined by match scores and inter-team scrimmages. Match experience developed throughout the season played a pivotal role, according to j.v. Coach Joan Vande Velde.

"I am proud of how the girls did at Regionals, especially for their first time, and it's a great way to round out the season," Coach Vande Velde said. "Not counting the Regional scores of the three qualifying teams, Freshman Jordan Davis had the 10th highest score with a 111, and almost qualified for State individually."

Scores not previously reported are as follows:

ISL Championships, September 30, away; Varsity finished 4 of 8; St. Rita Shootout, October 3, away; j.v. finished 4 of 12; Regionals, October 6, away; Varsity finished 2 of 7.



Photo by Kyra Sturgill

A QUICK CONTROLLING TURN takes JR Mahung past an on-rushing Kenwood Academy midfielder. Playing in new white uniforms, varsity soccer trounced the Broncos 9-1, October 13 on Jackman Field.

Soccermen find themselves in end-of-season twilight zone

By Matt Luchins
Editor-in-Chief

Controversially seeded 5th in their Section after expecting a #2 seed, boys' varsity soccer played their Regional Final against Glenbard South, the team awarded the second seed, last Friday. Results came past Midway deadline.

"We saw Glenbard play an uncontested match in the Regional semis, but we expect to give them a fight," said Senior Oliver Elfenbaum before Friday's

game. Oliver is cocaptain with Senior Zack Reneau-Wedeen.

"They have a key player on their left wing who wears bright orange shoes, so we'll have to play some tough defense, bring out the fire extinguisher and use them on his shoes."

If the Maroons earned a win they would have punched their ticket to

Sectional Semifinals, 7 p.m. today at Wheaton St. Francis. They would likely play Riverside-Brookfield, but an upset in R-B's Region could see the Maroons matched against Wheaton St. Francis, the team responsible for their low seed.

Despite entering the seeding meeting with an 11-1 record, the Maroons were given a #15 seed by the Spartans, a team the Maroons have never played. The 1-11 Wheaton team was awarded a #3 seed by Kenwood Academy in another eyebrow-raiser.

"The 5th seed came about because some coaches did not spend enough time looking at records and strength of schedule," said normally low-key Coach Mike Moses. "Ultimately, if there are gross mistakes in seeding, the school that may have had a seed that is an error doesn't get rewarded for what they did throughout the season."

Still, finishing the regular season 14-2-1 with both losses coming against a Mount Carmel team boasting several Division I prospects, the Maroons feel confident.

"If we play within the system and up our intensity level to play 60 minutes of soccer then we should be able to advance past the Regional final," Coach Moses said.

Cross country teams enter last stretch hoping for State despite injuries

By Alex Barber
Midway reporter

With both cross country boys and girls having been expected to place top five at Regionals, October 24 at Washington Park, the runners will move on to Sectionals, 10 a.m. Saturday at Niles West High School. Regional results came past Midway deadline.

Girls were banking on a Regional championship repeat behind experienced runners like defending Sectional champ Senior Sherry Fu and newcomer Sarah Curci. However, injuries have prevented several stars from running.

"Aoife MacMahon, a senior and cocaptain, has been out most of the season due to a hip injury," Sherry said. "Senior Julia Baird, also cocaptain, has had chronic shin splints while Sophomore Alex Chang also missed some time. Those are three of our top five runners."

Completing that quintet, Sherry and Sarah have dominated races, both finishing top three at four meets including a 2-3 finish to win the Independent School League Championship October 15.

"I expect us to qualify for State," Sherry said. "However, whether we maintain our top seed at Sectionals depends on our injuries and how hard people work."

Boys, who also won Regionals last year, share those expectations since Cocaptain

Watching Senior Oliver Elfenbaum chase down opposing soccer players all over Jackman Field, it's hard to imagine he once felt his fitness was holding him back.

Though a team cocaptain and four-year varsity player, he decided early on he had to improve his fitness level.

"I looked around at the really great soccer players, and they were all fast," Oliver said. "Once you have speed, you're half way there. I felt like I underachieved my first two years on the team and in order to get better and become a bigger part of the team, I really needed to shape up."

And shape up he did. Oliver lost 30 pounds through a strict workout routine and changed eating habits the summer before his junior year.

"I really had to watch what I ate, even if it meant turning down the occasional Krispy Kreme. I think my improved fitness was a large part of me becoming a leader on the team, and I'm trying to keep it that way."



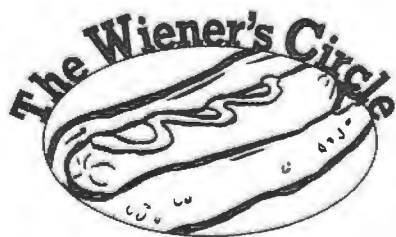
Wicked AWESOME Chicago Style Food



Photo by Sarah Lloyd

CRAVING SOME classic Chicago food before Halloween arrives, Eric Pettinato enjoys a hearty burger and sizzling fries at Wiener's Circle.

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Photo by Tina Umanskiy

A STANDOUT cross country performer, Freshman Sarah Curci ran a course record 11:36 two-mile at the Mather Invitational September 29.

"She is able to think as she runs," Coach Bud James said. "Sometimes younger runners do not understand the tactics, but she does."

Robert Meyer recovered from a muscle strain that plagued him throughout the season. Robert finished 2nd at the ISL Championships leading the boys to a 3rd place finish with Cocaptains Ben Buchheim-Jurisson (5th) and Thomas Aquino (6th). All are juniors.

"We hope and expect that the boys will be State qualifiers," Ben explained. "We've made a lot of improvements, and have a strong, young team this year."

"My ultimate goal is to get to the junior world championships. I'm hoping that if I keep training, I'll get there."
-John Tomlinson, cyclist



Junior on fast track to glory

By Bill Stueben
Associate editor

Heading into the final race of the 2009 Junior Track National Championships July 4, in Carson, California, Junior John Tomlinson did not expect to be pulling away from the pack to clinch his first championship jersey.

John started biking a little more than four years ago when his family moved downtown from the North Side. After renovations pushed him out of his new house, John got a road bike for his 12th birthday. Beginning with events like Bike the Drive, he joined a competitive cycling team, XXX Athletico, and has worked at it ever since.

"I **STARTED** going to national tournaments after I joined the team," John explained. "I've placed in the top ten consistently but before this year I've never made it to the podium, which is top five. I ride everyday after school and on weekends, sometimes up and down the lakefront and others on Sheridan Road. Every year is harder in terms of training but I've been consistent and it paid off."

With the support of his brother Richard, Class of '09, John took an early lead and kept going.

"For most of the race it was just me and a couple guys out front," John said. "Then, with about 12 laps left, I started to pull away on my own. Even though it was the last race of the tournament, pretty much everyone was still there to watch. People were going crazy. The only person I could really hear, though, was my brother, who was yelling for me. For the last two laps, one guy was closing on me but I finished strong and he couldn't catch up."

ALONG WITH larger goals for the future, John says another championship jersey remains high on his list.

"Before you win one, you think that if you do, you'll be satisfied," John explained. "It just made me want another even more. I still had a few



Photo by Richard Tomlinson courtesy John Tomlinson

JOHN TOMLINSON
National junior track champion

tournaments after I won the championship but I was really looking forward to the national training track camp that I was invited to during the first week of school. It was at the Olympic Training Facility in San Diego and we got to work with the head coach of the national team.

"I got sick while I was up there at 6,000 feet and didn't ride as well as I wanted to but still got a number of good hints from the head coach. He's taking a team to Europe to compete in some events over there and he's considering me for one of the spots."

"**RIGHT NOW**, my top goal is to get to Europe with the team."

"I've been setting small, short-term goals for myself so I don't look too far ahead. My ultimate goal though is to get to the junior world championships. I'm hoping that if I keep training, I'll get there."

How Open House got student guides back

(continued from front page)

"If a majority of the committee's four students and four faculty volunteers approved of a disputed proposal, they would recommend that program to administrators, who would make the final decision," Jack said in a telephone interview earlier this month. "The committee would only be created if there was a disagreement between the Senior Steering Committee and administrators."

"We would recruit student volunteers using signs or Facebook messages and Mr. McFarlane assured us he would help recruit faculty, as long as all discussion took place well before Commencement. That way, we won't be struggling with a timecrunch like we were last year."

"**STUDENT COUNCIL'S** goal wasn't to make the school look bad," Jack continued. "We just wanted some student input in decisions that affect us so much, even if administrators have, and should have, the final decision. We used Open House as a leverage point because it's one of the few things Student Council does for the administration."

While student guides at Sunday's Admissions Open House remained a familiar sight, not everything seemed the same as Admissions Director William Newman and Mr. Horvat implemented new program features.

In past years, between 50 and 200 parents and prospective U-Highers convened in Judd 126 hourly from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. After introductions by Mr. Horvat and Mr. Newman, attendees had 30 minutes to question a volunteer student panel. Student guides then took them on a tour of Lab Schools' facilities and classrooms, where teachers gave overviews and answered questions about their classes.

VISITORS WITNESSED theatre rehearsals, saw journalism students working to meet deadlines, and enjoyed a buffet in the cafeteria where student clubs and music groups gave presentations.

Mr. Newman, who has been at the Lab Schools two years, proposed an alternative program by e-mail to Department Chairpersons September 14.

"Instead of doing four separate showings we will have just one event that will start at 1 p.m. in Kovler," Mr. Newman wrote. "There will be general introductions, a student panel and then families will be released to attend 'classes'. There would be two, 25-minute sessions on topics generated by teachers."

"So, if you as a prospective parent want to learn about 'Socialism in Irish Literature' at 2 p.m. in room 304 and 'Molecular Genetics' at 2:30 p.m. in room 207, then we are only asking our faculty to commit for one hour versus three hours."

Mr. Newman said that he proposed changes to address logistical challenges and to reduce teachers' workload for the day.

"**UNDER THIS FORMAT**, teachers will teach for one hour and we won't have the problems with tour guides trying to herd families from one class to another," he explained. "We'll move the student clubs and organizations to Lower Kovler. It is also an opportunity to showcase the Kovler gymnasiums. Best of all, parents and students will see teachers doing what they do best, teach."

Science, Foreign Language and Math Department chairpersons expressed concerns about the new plan in subsequent e-mails.

"I'm willing to commit three (or four) hours for science, and I believe I can find another teacher to do the same," Science Department Chairperson David Derbes wrote September 14. "I think it is absolutely critical to have current Lab School kids take prospective kids and parents around the school and answer all questions honestly."

"**OUR KIDS** are our single most powerful argument for sending your kid here. We can of course teach mini-classes, but I don't think that tells the parents what they need to know. The parents need to ask us questions. Their being students is just too passive (or would be for me, were I among them.) Moreover, what if you have a bad 'class'?"

In an October 6 interview, Mr. Derbes concluded, "I think this solution isn't really addressing the problem of logistics, but some other problem altogether."

The Math Department's Open House classes would not accurately reflect U-High math classes, Math Department Chairperson Jane Canright pointed out.

"We couldn't teach like Mr. Newman proposed because we build off previous days' and years' knowledge every day," Ms. Canright said. "If we were to do a sample lesson, either parents and students wouldn't have a clue what was going on or be bored. We could come up with a sample lesson, but it wouldn't be representative of a typical math class at Lab."

"**THE NEW SYSTEM** would be less taxing on the teachers, but even though giving the same presentation many times is a hassle, we don't mind it because we feel it's effective. It's in our interest to attract students at Open House because we're the ones who teach them, and we're happy to change our ways if our input is requested."

She added, "I think Mr. Newman was surprised when the faculty spoke out against his proposal."

Whether or not he was surprised, Mr. Newman sent out a compromise addressing their concerns to the department chairpersons in an e-mail September 23.

"We reached a compromise with some teachers who simply prefer to give an overview while others were very comfortable creating a mini-class," Mr. Newman said in a Midway interview.

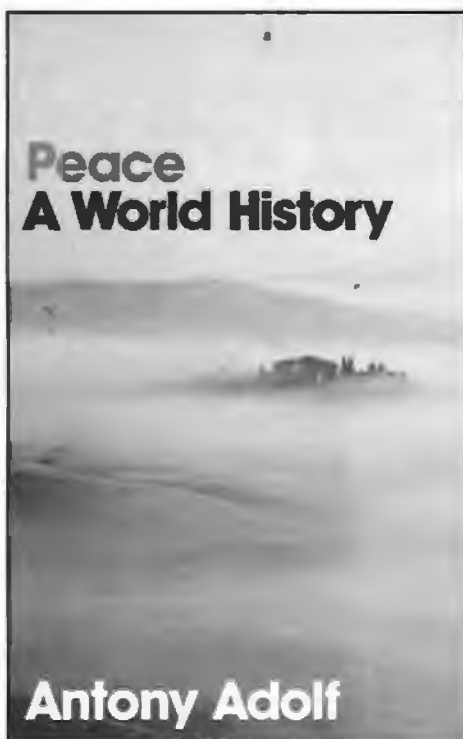
"Most likely, the humanities departments will teach classes while math and science will do overviews."

"We'll keep the journalism and theatre presentations as they were, and we'll still decorate the school. At other prominent private schools, such as Latin and F.W. Parker, this format is the standard."

(Also see editorial on page 8.)

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