

On the Money in another Reality

Economics students take a field trip for a wild day on the Stock Market

Nick Chaskin
Editor-in-Chief

Cool brisk morning air hits the faces of 34 Advanced Topics Economics students, History Teachers Christopher Janus and Chris Harper and Dean of Students Larry McFarlane as they walk west on Jackson Boulevard at 8:10 a.m. Friday, February 18.

The group is en route from the Van Buren Metra Electric Station on Michigan Avenue, where they had arrived from 57th Street station in Hyde Park to begin their field trip to the Chicago Board of Trade and the Federal Reserve.

AFTER WALKING several blocks, they file in the front lobby of the Board of Trade, 141 West Jackson Boulevard. A cavernous atrium with marble walls and floors, gilded doorways and ornate moldings houses them while waiting for their guide.

Built in 1885, the Chicago Board of Trade building was declared a historic landmark in 1977. The building houses the Chicago Mercantile Exchange's agricultural commodities and financial markets trading floors.



THE CLASS lines up in the Chicago Board of Trade lobby, waiting to enter the building.

SAPANA ANAND marvels at cube filled with 1 million dollar bills at the Money Museum.

IN THE Money Museum, Brianna Watson and Amrita Singh view an elaborate maze. Photos by Anisha Sisodia.

After lingering for a while, the group moves to a second lobby with cobalt walls and brass trim to wait for a few late students who were given permission to meet the group downtown.

"IT LOOKS like something out of 'The God Father,'" Senior Tina Umanskiy observes about the deco aesthetic.

Streams of mostly men who are, curiously, sporting bright mesh shirts over their outfits pass the group, a slight strut in their step.

Half an hour of waiting later, all students are accounted for and the group begins shuffling through security. One by one all 38 empty their pockets of metal, place their bags through the X-ray and walk through the metal detector.

WITHIN 10 minutes the group coalesces to watch a short informational film on CME Group.

A tidy spokesman on the screen explains that CME Group, which owns and runs the Chicago Board of Trade, is one of the largest international stock markets in the world.

After the movie, everyone files out of the gray room into an equally white, drafty hallway. The right wall has huge windows overlooking the bustling trading floor.

BELOW, DOZENS of screens showing stock quotes and graphs dot the dark linoleum floor and massive boards surrounding the floor show different numbers in gold, red, and green. A buzzing sound of typing carries through the windows.

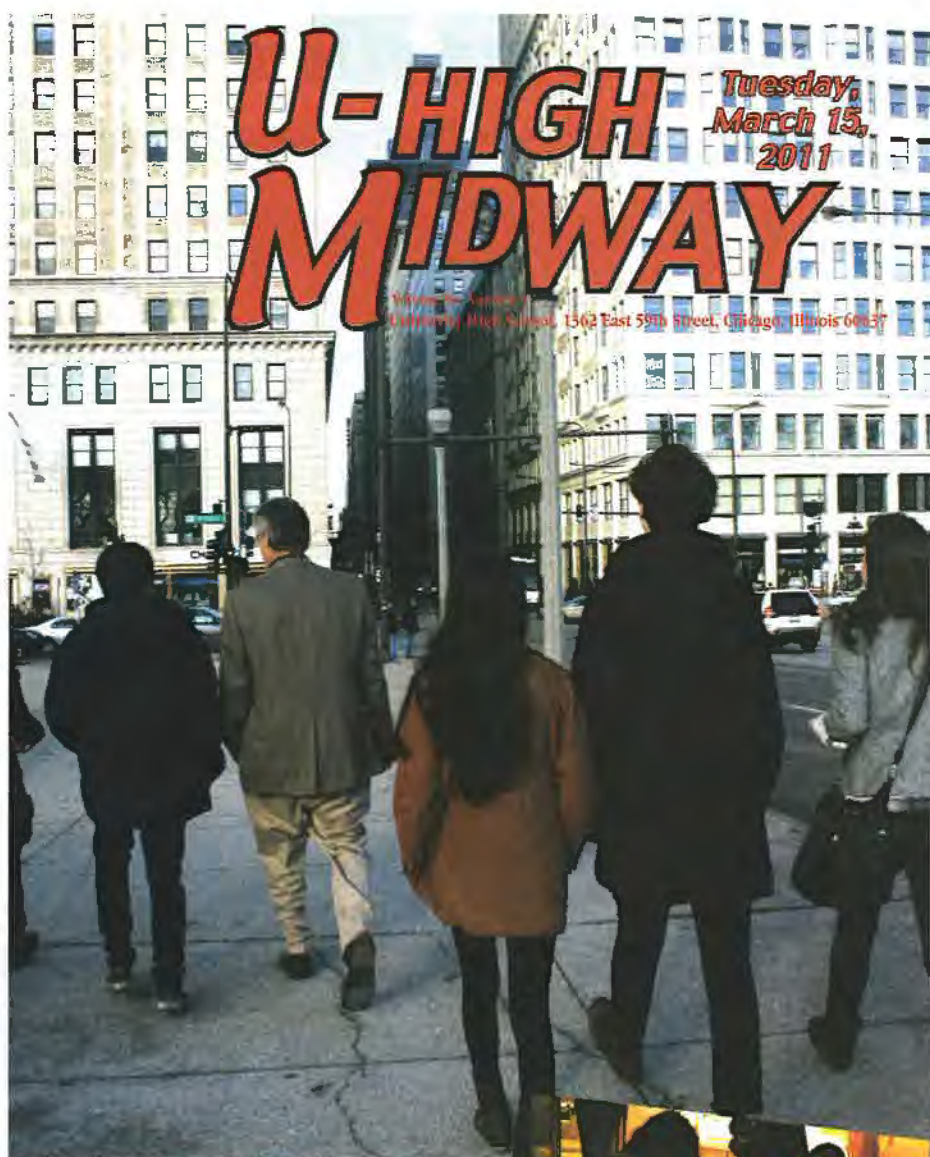
Men wearing collared shirts, khakis, and the same bright mesh shirts as downstairs congregate around the "trading pits." There are six pits in the room, each an octagonal depression in the floor, bordered by stairs for traders to stand on and purple metal railings.

It is now 9:20 a.m., 10 minutes before the opening bell. While the group waits for trading to start, a public relations specialist named Emily begins explaining the scene.

"THIS IS the Agricultural Commodities trading floor," Emily says. "It is open from 9:30 in the morning to 1:30 in the afternoon. During that time thousands of trades will happen. Here they trade corn over in the lower right hand pit, soy over in the middle pits and all the way on the left is where they trade wheat and oats."

"The different colored mesh shirts you see everyone wearing correspond to the different types of traders. If they are working for a specific trading company like J.P. Morgan Chase they wear their company's colors. Independent trader usually wear bright colors that will make them stick out in a crowd."

A bell rings and a split second later the



BEGINNING their venture to the Chicago Board of Trade and Federal Reserve, seniors stroll from the Van Buren Metra Electric Station on Michigan to the Board of Trade building with History Teacher Chris Janus. Photo by Anisha Sisodia.

shouts of hundreds of traders begin, yelling and making wild hand gestures all around the room.

AFTER SETTING a meeting spot, Mr. Janus announces everyone has an hour free before visiting the Federal Reserve, across the street from the Board of Trade.

An hour later the group reconvenes outside the Federal Reserve building, 230 South LaSalle Street. While some have devoted their time to getting breakfast, others used it to go shoe shopping.

The group goes through another security checkpoint, like the one at the Board of Trade. On the other side is an exhibit on U.S. currency. Students amble over an old elevator shaft filled with over a million dollars worth of loose change, and see what a briefcase filled with a million dollars looks like.

"I IMAGINE something like this being in some rapper's basement," says Senior Jeremy Woo, indicating a massive revolving cube filled with money. "It is kind of ridiculous how much money is just sitting here doing nothing, although some of this is pretty interesting."

A presentation on the role of the Federal Reserve later, the group moves towards lunch at a pizza place Mr. Janus knows, and the students eagerly reflect on their field trip.



STANDING ON glass-covered elevator shaft in the Chicago Federal Reserve Money Museum, Miki Verma and Marissa Gulam observe the mound of coins below.

AS JUSTIN ALGEE, Alex Barber, and Jeremy Woo watch, balls move through a maze in a Money Museum exhibit showing the many ways money moves through the economy.

BRIENNE ELLIS poses as Benjamin Franklin in the Money Museum as Anna Hopkins snaps the fun. Photos by Veronica Ramirez.



DAVID CHUNG
West Point bound

Photo by Sarah Husain

Senior accepted at West Point

Akila Raoul
Associate editor

When Senior David Chung first saw cadets from The United States Military Academy at West Point on T.V. when he was 6 years old, the image of the physical training stuck with him. It in fact influenced his decision to apply to the military academy in West Point, New York last year.

With a 15 percent acceptance rate from about 13,000 applicants each year, West Point offers small classes of 15 to 25 cadets each and a student faculty ratio of about 8 to 1.

The application process starts with a nomination by a member of Congress. Applicants must then take the Candidate Fitness Assessment, consisting of six challenging physical activities.

U.S. Representative Danny Davis nominated David. "West Point came to mind rather suddenly because I knew that I was physically fit and had decent to good grades," David reflected. "I didn't really want to go

to the U. of C., my second choice, because I felt that my parents were pushing me to go there instead of me making my own decision."

David had no problem meeting the grades necessary for acceptance to West Point.

"I was the top student in Mr. Davis's district so I was a priority applicant," David said. "I had the highest SAT scores and possibly the highest grades. When I got nominated there was a photo shoot with other student nominees and the representatives came to his office."

Even though David often seems reserved, he believes West Point will prove a good fit for him because he likes an orderly life.

"I enjoy having discipline in my life because I know that working hard will literally take me places. I'm not particularly talented academically or athletically, but I try to work hard to reach my goals. In that way, I enjoy having order in my life because without order, I don't think I would have that discipline."

With Mayoral election over, U-Highers dissect the battle with wry eye

Duncan Weinstein
Midway reporter

As Rahm Emanuel makes the transition from candidate to mayor, U-Highers see difficult, but solvable, problems ahead.

After winning the February 22 election with 55 percent of the vote, Emanuel will take office May 16, replacing Mayor Richard M. Daley, Chicago's longest serving mayor.



Joel

After 21 years of Daley control, things will change and U-Highers explain why. "I DON'T think Emanuel will be able to command the city like Daley," Senior Joel Sachnoff said. "He'll get more respect if he wins more terms but it will take a while. Even Daley wasn't Daley his first term. Though I do think the machine will fall apart a little bit and the old ways will die some."

"Though, I don't think the election shows the city desperate for change. If Daley



Marissa

had been running again and Rahm had beat him that would be a different story. But the willingness to elect someone who, residency issue aside, hasn't been in the city for awhile shows the city is ready to bring in someone who is more of an outsider because he can get things done."

Competence will make Emanuel's popularity, according to Senior Marissa Guiang.

"THERE ARE A lot of issues in the city but what people are looking for in a mayor most is efficiency," Marissa said. "Someone who's trying to be successful getting things done has to do things in a timely manner. People need things taken care of now and if things get delayed, either by Emanuel or the City Council, people will have a bad opinion of him."



Ramona

"People look for politicians they can relate to. There was an ad attacking Rahm's upbringing for not having the same struggles as lower or middle class Chicagoans. He'll have to put that in perspective and solve their problems so

people can relate to him."

Emanuel has the experience necessary to run America's third largest city, according to Sophomore Ramona Chatman-Morris.

"THERE'S NO doubt in my mind Emanuel will be able to run the city. If he could run the train wreck that is Washington, he can steer Chicago. He has national sway and can bring federal amenities to the city."

U-High faculty also see issues that need to be addressed, for Physics Teacher David Derbes, money matters are chief concern.

"I'm not sure anyone can run the city really," Mr. Derbes said. "We're in serious financial trouble, both Illinois and Chicago. Any mayor needs money."

"HE'S GOT TO find a way to pay the bills and I think he needs to raise taxes. I know that's not a popular idea but the city needs revenue. I'd like it if the tax wasn't regressive, so not a flat sales tax and I'd like it to hit wealthier people harder. Maybe a value added tax."

"In Chicago as well as lot of other municipalities, public employees traded lower wages for benefits down the road. Municipalities agreed, thinking they'd have more money in 20 years, but now we have even less money. I don't think Chicago will renege its promises like some cities have, but we may have to float bonds or raise taxes to meet our contractual commitments."

Believing prosperity will lead to higher revenues, English Teacher Collin Rennert-May believes Emanuel must grow business.

"I LIKE EMANUEL'S idea about creating a technology campus where university researchers can collaborate with small businesses. Universities in places like Silicon Valley are really driving innovation and spurring new businesses. When there are businesses growing, I think it makes more people want to come here. But Emanuel does need to watch his tax policy. He can't snuff out businesses. He needs to concentrate on the long term goals and prevent



Art by Gene Cochrane

mistakes in the short term.

Education in general must improve, Mr. Rennert-May said.

"All candidates talk about improving public school performance. Emanuel's idea about implanting something like Race to the Top here was a concrete idea to create change. It's specific and can be accomplished, not a pie in the sky idea. Race to the Top has been innovative nationally and I'm curious to see what impact it can have at a local level."

"I THINK EMANUEL has been pretty guarded to this point. I'm a hopeful person so I have hope. In terms of how successful he'll be on a new stage, what Daley programs will survive, how he'll make his mark on the city and how long he'll have to do that, I don't know yet, but I'm eager to find out."

U-Highers also take away lessons from the election itself. Despite being the "consensus" black candidate, Carol Moseley Braun did not win a single black ward.

"I guess the black candidates got together and thought they had to unite," Mr. Derbes said. "They thought Carol was the strongest, personally, I think Danny Davis would have been a better pick. I mean I get why they did it but it's frustrating. I'm really happy the election wasn't decided along racial lines. People should vote on

politics, policy and who would make the best mayor."

JOEL ATTRIBUTES Moseley Braun's lack of success to more than just race.

"To be frank, I think Carol is an idiot," Joel said. "She harped on her small business expertise but it seemed like she was bs-ing her way through. She's had past issues, like a money laundering case when she was Ambassador to New Zealand that there wasn't enough evidence to prove. But \$250,000 was missing from the budget and her house got renovated at the same time."

Over the course of the campaign, Emanuel raised more cash than all the other candidates combined, leading to a lot more publicity.

"INFORMATION ON THE candidates was really hard to find," Joel said. "I think the newspapers did a bad job informing the public. I think a big part of the reason Emanuel won so easily was because he had the name recognition."

Mr. Rennert-May sees a different trend.

"I didn't know that much about the candidates and I think a lot of people didn't either. I mean I don't know as much as I could but there are parts of city life I don't have a stake in. I think a lot of people voted on a few issues that really mattered to them."

U-Highers contribute talents, time to 'Connections'

Sam Reynolds
Midway reporter

Under the majestic nearly century-old 80-foot high domed ceiling of the Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier, U-Highers con-

tributed both their talents and commitment to the school at the Parents' Association annual gala fundraising evening, "Connections," Saturday, March 5.

More than 750 parents, families, alumni,

faculty, staff and friends of the Schools, elegantly attired, turned out for the evening of dinner, music, dancing, auctions and entertainment. The alumni included 60 graduates from the classes of the past 60 years.

A RECORD \$150,000 was raised from auction sales alone. Proceeds from the auctions, ticket sales, souvenir booklet ads and donations will go tuition aid in the Schools and the Lab+ campaign to both expand the Schools physically and improve its facilities and other programs.

On-line and silent auctions offered more than 100 items ranging from a diamond necklace donated by Ultra Diamond to a custom caricature created by Jon Belonio, Class of 1996.

Three Lower School parents served as chairpersons. They are Ms. Mariama Ingersoll, Ms. Sonya Malunda and Ms. Liz Parker.

Ms. Ingersoll underscored the importance of the event to students.

"Last year there were over 250 students who needed financial aid," she said. "Connections raises money to make sure that when those students need financial aid, the money is there."

A gourmet dinner offered Roast Madeira Chicken, Osso Bucco Ravioli with Chianti Sauce, Seasonal Vegetables, a

mixed green salad, artichoke fritters, a sun dried tomato asiago tartlet, baked brie, chicken potstickers and two desserts, a chocolate banana caramelized mousse and a lemon mousse torte.

After dinner, D.J. Brian Carey offered music for dancing.

Student performers, all receiving tremendous applause, included Jazz Band with a program including standards including "Sunny Moon For Two" and "Autumn Leaves."

Dance Troupe performed to "The Time" by Black Eyed Peas and "All That Jazz" from the musical "Chicago."

"We chose these songs because they show how all music is combined," said the Troupe's coach, Middle School Teacher Staci Garner. Ms. Garner said. "We believe that all types of dance are related to each other. Even if they're separate, they're all connected."

Playing a Beatles Medley Chamber Ensemble included "Hey Jude" and "I Want To Hold Your Hand."

"We looked for music that everyone would know and enjoy," said Senior Marissa Guiang. "Most of the guests were parents and administrators. The Beatles are so iconic that we thought most people would know a lot of their songs by heart."

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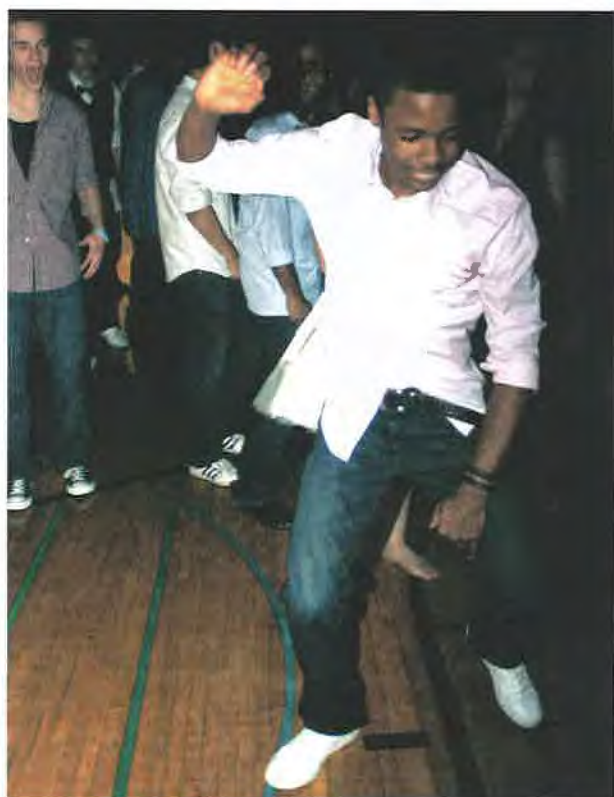
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Fashionably Better Late Than Never

PAGE 3 • U-High Midway • Tuesday, March 15, 2011



SURROUNDED BY spectators, Justin Algee grooved to beats including "Black and Yellow" by Wiz Khalifa, stylish in a pink shirt from Banana Republic and Abercrombie and Fitch jeans. Challenging frigid temperatures outside, the hot gym stayed crowded all night. *Photo by Anisha Sisodia*



MORE THAN 200 U-Highers danced to the beats of D.J. Jamal Smallz at Winter Formal, Saturday, February 19. Originally scheduled at the International House for February 5, the dance was postponed because of the February 2 blizzard and relocated to Sunny Gym because I-House was unavailable. The party really came to life after some-

one turned the lights off, though they were turned back on. Vibrantly different dance styles emerged as the songs ranged from "Smells like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana, which was so popular the D.J. played it twice, and "Baby Got Back" by Sir Mixalot, another crowd favorite that brought on exuberant dancing and cheering. *Photo by Remy Lewis*



ON A dancing break, Kendall Reynolds, fashionable in pumps and a black dress, Danny Martinez and Max Hornug chat on the bleachers. "I thought Formal would be gross in the gym, but it wasn't horrible," said Kendall. "My only complaint was the music." *Photo by Anisha Sisodia*



AT THEIR final U-High Winter Formal, Michael Barody and Emmy Ehrmann sported dark colors, contrasting against Emmy's bright green dangly earrings. *Photo by Anisha Sisodia*



TAKING Science Teacher Daniel Calleri's fashion advice in a letter in the February 1 Midway to heart, Henry Bergman (photos from left, top row first), sported a Calvin Klein shirt, vintage shades and a Perry Ellis 1987 tie.

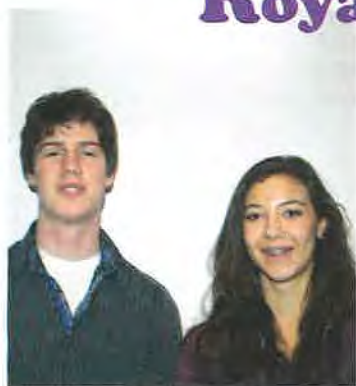
LED BY Sydney Fishman in a Poly dress from *Prom-girl.com*, Isaac Nicholas, clad in pieces picked up in numerous thrift stores, a scarf from his mother and some lost-and-found gems, danced with her throughout most of the night.

WITH OLDER beats like "I gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas blaring, Maxine Nesbitt, showcasing a garner grace skirt from Cusp, enjoyed dancing with the crowd to the playlist of familiar tunes.

WHILE LITTLE black dresses reigned, Chi Lupescu displayed a light dress from Forever 21. Delia Privitera, like many others, sported trendy jewelry such as her shiny H&M earrings. *Photos by Anisha Sisodia*



Royalty



ALL-SCHOOL
Nick Chaskin
Gaba Rosenbacher



SENIORS
Mike Turner
Tina Umanskiy



JUNIORS
Nick Phalen
Katherine Garvey



SOPHOMORES
Jonah Silverstein
Stefania Gomez



Photos by Anisha Sisodia
FRESHMEN
Louis Harboe
Ellen Audrain

Going greener in year two

JR Reed
Associate editor

Working to reduce the Lab Schools' energy usage, 15 Green Team members tracked classroom temperatures and measured the schools' energy usage during the Green Cup Challenge, a nationwide environmental contest January 21-February 18.

Because of delays in University energy usage bills, however, the Green Team could not send the Green Schools Alliance, the challenge's sponsor, energy statistics and was unable to compete with four Midwestern schools.

INSTEAD, TEAM MEMBERS measured themselves against their performance last year, when the team reduced the Lab Schools' energy usage three percent. This year's results aren't known yet.

"During the four-week period, Green Team members went with Facilities Coordinator Scott Griffin to measure the high school's energy consumption each week," said Club President Jennifer Pan, junior. "As one of Lab's top facilities personnel, Scott is an expert on the schools' operations and construction and serves as the head of the Green Initiative here at Lab.

"Unfortunately, however, this year's numbers will likely be severely skewed due to the two February snow days," Jennifer explained. "But I'm still interested in knowing what our numbers look like for the three other weeks of the challenge."

LAST QUARTER, JENNIFER and Green Team members organized a three-week campaign to promote re-using water bottles and sponsored an all-school drive to collect old electronic appliances. The team also scheduled three cold lunch days that reduced the cafeteria's heat use.

"We were lucky to get 300 students to sign the plastic bottle petition," Jennifer said. "Although I don't know exactly how many students have carried out their promise, I've definitely had 20 or so tell me that they now think twice before buying plastic water bottles and frequently opt for the water fountain instead.

"Many U-Highers have also approached me and supported continuing cold lunch days. We have only organized three so far, but we have received great reviews, especially on the sushi. Green Team thought it was a great idea in terms of a way to reduce energy consumption, but we weren't sure how students would enjoy the actual meals offered during the days."

PROMOTING STUDENT AWARENESS about their carbon footprint, Green Team member Asha Ransby-Sporn, junior, also shot a two-minute video during the Green Cup Challenge that received a Green Cup Coor-



THREE HUNDRED Lab Schools students and faculty members signed a pledge to re-use water bottles at a Green Initiative demonstration October 8 in Kenwood Mall. Signers received environmental coffee mugs.

Green Team President Jennifer Pan conversed with students including Jono Matthews. Also in the photo, from left, are Kelsea Hoffman, Sally Ladsaria and Michael Bissonnette. Photo by Remy Lewis.

dinator Video Picks honorary mention. The video can be found online at <http://greencupchallenge.net/video.html>.

"Asha's video shows various U-High students walking in the snow to places around the high school and in the neighborhood, stressing the idea that these students are leaving a footprint wherever they go," Jennifer explained. "The video has been broadcasted periodically on the screen in the first floor high school hallway to raise students' awareness.

"In addition to the video, the Green Team put up a display board showing ways to go green and other environmental slogans in the hallway leading to Rowley Library in another attempt to raise awareness.

"PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM is the most effective way to help reduce our school's carbon emission, and that's also why mentoring Lower Schools kids needs to be a vital part of the Green Team's initiative. Although we haven't had the opportunity to talk with Lower School students yet this year, we are hoping to do so in the final two months of school."

Organized by Faculty Adviser Gail Poole, assistant to the athletic director, Green Team members also talked to Lower and High School teachers in January and February about some

simple energy saving ideas.

"Advice included turning off lights, shutting windows in their classroom, unplugging charged electronics, using sleep mode on computers, and also trying to use double-sided paper when distributing class assignments," Ms. Poole explained. "If teachers can incorporate even one or two of these actions into their daily routine, there's no doubt we can help our school's environmental standing."

AS A CHILD, Ms. Poole fostered an interest in the environment from her family, which prompted her to assist in the Green Club's development.

"My father was an attorney for the Environmental Protection Agency in its infancy, and my daughter is an environmental engineer, so there has always been an awareness of environmental issues in our home," Ms. Poole said.

"While the Lab Plus campaign will bring the brick and mortar aspect of the Lab Schools to the green building standard of excellence, my interest is student engagement. That's where the real payback exists for advancement of sustainability for the future."



Welcoming the Rabbit

INDULGING IN dim sum, barbequed pork, and turnip cake, from left, Maddy Campion, Brenda Benitez, Michael Bissonnette, Philip Lockwood-Bean and Spencer Lee sample Asian specialties at Chinatown's Phoenix Restaurant on the Chinese class field trip February 10.

Fifteen students experienced the neighborhood's culture and celebrated the beginning of the Year of the Rabbit.

At the Chinese American Museum of Chicago, students also viewed traditional clothing and toys and played Chinese card games. Photo courtesy of Ms. Ching-Yun Chang.

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Law professor sets the record straight

EXPLAINING the importance of the 14th amendment in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community, University of Chicago Law Professor Geoffrey Stone spoke in a Spectrum-sponsored talk, February 4.

"We chose Mr. Stone because there have been a lot of LGBT-related issues legally lately," explained Spectrum Anna Rosenzweig, president with Mara Weisbach. "We felt it would be helpful to have an expert explain how the laws work for and against the gay community." University of Chicago Law Professor Mary Ann Case spoke March 4. Photo by Remy Lewis.

The blizzard that made U-High history

'The school that never closes' closed two days...and everyone has a story to tell

Lindsey Aronson
Midway reporter

As sheets of snow lashed across North Lake Shore Drive at 70 miles-an-hour, Middle School Math Teacher Chris Freeman sat stranded in his Honda Accord with his two sons at 6 p.m. Tuesday, February 1. Their trip from Hyde Park to Rogers Park, which usually took about 45 minutes, froze just past Fullerton avenue.

Because of a jack-knifed CTA bus more than 500 vehicles had become log-jammed on the Drive at Rush Hour, beginning an ordeal that lasted until the wee hours of the morning.

Senior Isaac Nicholas, who had boarded another CTA bus in Hyde Park to head north, was likewise trapped, with six other passengers, on the South Drive, just after entering at 47th Street.

What turned out an accurately-predicted, history-making blizzard with more than 20 inches of snow driven by the raging winds, snarled the city. For the first time since 1967, the Lab Schools were closed two consecutive days, February 2 and 3.

Lake Shore Drive did not reopen for 34 hours. Hundreds of drivers devoted days trying to find where their vehicles had been towed.

The Freemans, including 8-year-old John and 13-year-old Edward Freeman, had no idea of the the ordeal they were about to experience. Mr. Freeman said they remained calm. He repeatedly left the car to wipe off the windshield, not being able to see beyond 10 feet ahead and eventually just seeing white.

"I decided to turn the engine off for periods of 15 to 20 minutes, then turn it back on for five minutes to warm the car up again," Mr. Freeman said. "But then I worried that I might fall asleep with the engine off, so my dear wife called me every 30 minutes to wake me up to turn the engine back on."

By 9 p.m., John had fallen asleep in the backseat. Edward and Mr. Freeman dozed on and off until 2:30 a.m. when a firefighter tapped on the car window.

Gathering their belongings, the Freemans stepped out onto the Drive. Passed through a chain of firefighters, the Freemans slowly moved across multiple lanes to a Red Cross rescue bus.

The bus delivered them and other refugees from the traffic jam to Malcolm X College on the West Side, where Red Cross members greeted them with granola bars, water bottles and cots.

Heading to his grandmother's downtown residence, Isaac found his bus stranded just after 6 p.m.

"I knew boarding the bus was a bad idea in the first place, but I got on anyway," Isaac recollected. "We turned onto the Drive, drove for about two minutes, and after that, we were stuck."

"Our bus driver told us not to panic. We had heat and he knew the location of our bus. Everyone thought it was funny that we were stuck, and we started to guess what bad thing would happen next to make our time together more fun."



TREKKING THROUGH Hyde Park (photos above from top left), Mike Baroody found an abandoned hole on the snowy Midway and plopped down inside.

FALLING INTO THE snow, Catherine Zhou tickles a tired Ellen Ma. Photo by Lili Steffen.

TAKING A BREAK from photographing the blizzard, Anisha Sisodia creates a snow angel. Photos by Veronica Ramirez.



FROM ACROSS the fence in Bixler Park at 57th and Kenwood Shannon Vavra pelts a unprepared Sarah Husain with a snowball. Along with three other junior girls, they spent the day playing in the park's snow. Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.

When the Lab Schools has closed and why

Rafi Khan
Editor-in-Chief

January 28, 1978.

That was the last time administrators closed the Lab Schools because of a heavy snow. Until last month, that is.

In 1978 snow began falling the afternoon of Thursday, January 27, with winds blowing at 50 miles-an-hour.

With travel increasingly treacherous, many businesses closed early and many schools sent students home early.

The Lab Schools, however, stayed open and many U-High students and teachers even stayed after school to watch the Winter Production or to work on the Midway.

Only at 9:30 p.m. did Lab Schools Director Bruce McPherson announce that school would be closed the following day. Approximately 12 inches of snow had fallen, driven by the wind into high drifts.

The 1978 blizzard came exactly 11 years after a city-crippling 26-inch snowfall in 1967, which resulted in the Lab Schools closing for two days, Friday January 27 and Monday January 30, because travel was nearly impossible.

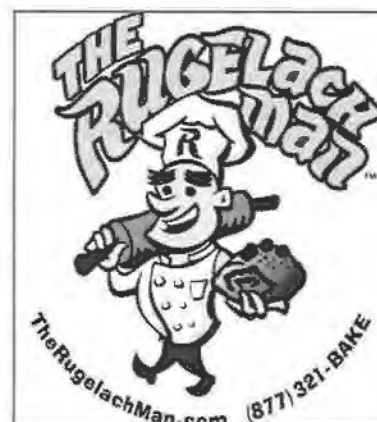
In 1999, the Lab Schools remained opened though 22 inches of snow fell the weekend of January 2-3. About two-thirds of the U-High student body showed up Monday, despite treacherous travel conditions.

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Model U.N. teams keep winning ways

Sonia Bourdaghs
Midway reporter

Despite limited preparation time after their Harvard meet January 21-23 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Model U.N. returned with a "Best Large Delegation" award from Georgetown University February 18-20 in Washington D.C..

Only the Northwestern conference April 7-10 in Evanston's northern suburbs, remains for the U-Highers.

AT GEORGETOWN, Model U.N. represented Iraq, Sri Lanka and Sweden, beating rival schools John P. Stevens, New Jersey and Port Charlotte, Florida. The delegates' triumph at Georgetown occurred only three weeks after returning from Harvard.

The delegation's hard work paid off, believes Junior Sally Ladsaria.

"It was a challenge preparing for the conference since most people went to Harvard and had only a few weeks to prepare for Georgetown," Sally said. "We definitely felt pressed for time, but everyone was incredibly dedicated."

"THE ORGANIZATION of the junior Head Delegates was amazing," Sally continued, referring to Josh Koenig, Molly Petchenik, Nathan Eckstein and Rosie Cuneo-Grant, all juniors. "They made schedules which included deadlines for everyone and divided us into two different groups based on committee dynamic. What happened at Harvard motivated people to make a comeback at Georgetown. We wanted to prove to continue to uphold our prestigious reputation."

Success at Georgetown surprised the delegation, said Freshman Rahul Mehta.

"This was our three-week conference, when usually we have one and a half to two months to prepare," Rahul explained. "Beating John P. Stevens and Port Charlotte as well as winning 'Best Large Delegation' were both unexpected and very encouraging because we had a lot less people than some of the other schools."

AT HARVARD, the delegation won no team awards after a surprise classification as a large delegation.

"Our delegation was unexpectedly categorized as large at Harvard," said Vice President Karlin Gatton, senior. "We ended up competing against teams with 40 kids, when we only had 19 because we thought we would be competing as a small delegation."

Georgetown awards were as follows:

BEST DELEGATES—Josh Koenig, Rosie, Cuneo-Grant, Natalia Ginsburg, Rahul Mehta.

OUTSTANDING DELEGATES—Nathan Eckstein and Jordan Einhorn.

HONORABLE DELEGATES—Kelsey Stevens, Natalie Lubin, Michelle Ng, Maud Jansen, Maya Fishbach, Joel Sachnoff, Amartya Das, Jessie Gimpel.



FIRST U-HIGH debaters to compete in the prestigious Tournament of Champions, Juniors Charlie Rafkin and Joyce Harduvel display trophies they earned in previous competitions.

New strategy works for debaters

Aneesh Kanakamedala
Midway reporter

Integrating a real world problem in their strategy, Varsity Debaters Joyce Harduvel and Charlie Rafkin, juniors, will be the first U-High debaters to compete in the Tournament of Champions April 29-31 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Students from 72 high schools will participate.

Charlie and Joyce won their spot after reaching the final eight of 80 teams in two earlier competitions, Semifinals January 14-16 at Lexington High School in Massachusetts, and Quarterfinals February 12-14 at Stanford University, California.

AT THE APRIL TOURNAMENT, the two U-Highers will debate the national high school topic, the removal of United States foreign military presence. Faced with this topic at Lexington and Stanford, U-Highers developed a new strategy.

"We can narrow down our reasons by using specific examples, and so we decided to enforce 'Don't Ask Don't Tell' to really make our arguments hit home," Charlie said.

"We do not support this atrocious policy at all, but we want to show how ignorant it is by pushing it to its limits. Then people will see how badly it needs to be changed."

"The judges were actually curious about our new argument and how we used it to debate the other teams. None of them misinterpreted our true goal, and instead gave us a lot of interesting comments so we could improve for future debates. The schools we did face were very surprised by our arguments, and challenged us if enforcing 'Don't Ask Don't Tell' will actually disband homophobia."

"WE GOT OUR RESEARCH from think tanks like American Enterprise Institute and databases like Jstor and Proquest to try to prove how our approach will help disband the policy."

"A lot of the teams there liked debating with us, and we hope that our different approach will make the debate community help solve world problems."

Results for other debates are as follows:

STANFORD UNIVERSITY—Charlie and Joyce won 6 rounds, lost 1 (Charlie was awarded 4th speaker); Jacob Rosenbacher and Cory Stern won 4 rounds, lost 3.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY—Charlie and Joyce won 5 rounds, lost 1; Jacob and Cory won 4, lost 1; Mia Epner and Lily Zhou won 2, lost 4.

HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR, February 25-27—Charlie and Mia Epner won 4, lost 2, advanced to quarterfinals. Charlie was awarded 6th speaker; Jacob and Cory won 4, lost 2; Sam Kaplan and Lily Zhou won 3, lost 3; Sam Leiter and Kat Ben-Shahar won 2, lost 4.



SENIORS COULD point with pride to the Model United Nations victory at Georgetown last month, part of a season of triumphs. From left are Claudia

Yang, Maya Fishbach, Robert Meyer, Karlin Gatton, Sam Neal, and Alex Nirenberg. Absent from the photo is Sasha Karapetrova.

Hard-working Math Team went into finals ready

Spencer Lee
Associate Editor

Placed 6th in their 12-school division after four of five Northern Suburban Math League (NSML) competitions, Math Team headed for Finals last Wednesday at Evanston Township High School, after Midway press time.

After taking individual and group practice tests all year, team members have been working and scoring consistently, according to Head Coach Nadja Aquino.

"SO FAR, we have been pretty consistent this year in our ranking in our division," Ms. Aquino said. "We have done well and steady with ranking for a few years."

When school closed because of snow February 2-3, the team was forced to reschedule its fourth NSML meet, Junior Charlie Jiang said.

"The snows days happened to coincide with our fourth NSML meet," he explained. "Due to the snow days, we were out of practice and frame of mind to compete. Also, by taking the contest at school, the atmosphere may have seemed more like a regular Math Team practice."

THE TEAM fell short of qualifying for Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) State Finals because the Science Team Olympiad Regionals coincided with the ICTM confer-



STEERED BY SENIORS throughout the season, Math team showed what they'd learned in NSML finals last Wednesday. From left are Hannah Constantin, Maya Fishbach, Joe Turner, and Peter Zhang. Absent from the photo John Chen, David Chung, Charles Du, Sasha Karapetrova, Stephanie Xiao, and Daniel Zhou.

ence Saturday February 26 at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. With the teams sharing members, that proved problematic.

"Because Science Team had a competition on the same day, we missed almost half of our juniors and seniors in the ICTM contest," Ms. Aquino said. "Some of our sophomores had to sub in for them. Freshmen or anybody joining math team are still interested to compete and learn, and that is a good thing. With experience comes success."

"We are always thrilled to do well at the ICTM, which has a wider geography of schools. We have won in our division four years in a row."

Science teams build, brush up to win

Hebah Masood
Midway reporter

Fixing robots and building towers inside their Judd basement workshop, 15 Illinois Science Olympiad (ISO) team members have been tweaking contraptions and flipping through textbooks, preparing for state competition Saturday April 16 at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

If team members place 5th or higher out of the 24 Chicago Area Division schools, they will advance to Nationals, May 21 at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

THE WORLDWIDE YOUTH in Science and Engineering (WYSE) team will also compete this week, vying against about 10 schools in written academic tests at Sectionals Thursday at North Central College in Naperville.

Dominating competition at Regionals February 9, WYSE placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in every category.

And for the first time ever, 16 juniors and seniors analyzed data and presented solutions to a judge, competing at the Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS) competition last Friday (after Midway press time) at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

THE ISO TEAM qualified for State by placing 4th at Regionals, February 26 at New Trier Township High School in Winnetka. Team members took exams on 23 topics and tested machines they created for building competitions.

"State is just a higher level of competition with more schools," said Aalap Herur-Raman, captain with Michael Shapiro (both are seniors). "Last year we placed 13th and the year before we placed 14th. This year our goal is to place 10th. You have to place 5th to go to Nationals so it's pretty difficult."

"We placed 1st in two competitions at Region-

als including our robot so I think we're in pretty good shape. At Regionals Michael and I weren't that confident, but we ended up doing pretty well so that was a relief. It might be kind of a stretch to say we'll go to Nationals, but if we work really hard and do well it's not totally impossible."

Award recipients in WYSE are as follows:

1ST PLACE-Biology and Math: Charles Du; **Chemistry:** Stephanie Xiao; **Computer Science and Physics:** Joe Turner; **Engineering Graphics:** Jonathan Jou, English: Alice Fine.

2ND PLACE-Biology: Reem Khondaker; **Chemistry:** Jennifer Pan; **Computer Science and Math:** Elliot Levmore; **Engineering Graphics:** Peter Zhang; **English:** Stephanie Zhou; **Math:** Charlie Jiang; **Physics:** Robert Radway.

3RD PLACE-Biology: Yaning Zhang; **Chemistry:** Charlie Jiang; **English:** Emily Xiao; **Math:** Yaning Zhang; **Physics:** Peter Zhang and Jeremy Archer.

Award recipients in Illinois Science Olympiad Regionals are as follows:

1ST PLACE-Chemistry Lab: Amir Hay and Charlie Jiang; **Robots:** Charlie Jiang and Robert Radway.

2ND PLACE-Anatomy and Physics: Charles Du and Hannah Greenblatt; **Disease:** Charles Du and Kavia Khosla; **Ornithology:** Hannah Greenblatt and Markus Hoeckner; **Protein Modeling:** Katelyn Suchyta, Jen Pan and Sally Ladsaria.

3RD PLACE-Ecology: Aalap Herur-Raman and Michael Shapiro; **Microbe:** Hannah Greenblatt and Aalap Herur-Raman; **Optics:** Charlie Jiang and Jonathan Jou; **Fossils:** Michael Shapiro and Sally Ladsaria.

4TH PLACE-Mousetrap Vehicle: Aalap Herur-Raman and Amir Hay.

5TH PLACE-Astronomy: Robert Radway and Aneesh Kanakamedala; **Remote Sensing:** Kavia Khosla and Robert Radway; **Towers:** Charlie Jiang and Robert Radway.

A Festive day to celebrate the Arts

PAGE 7 • U-High Midway • Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Cats posing as Adam and God from Michelangelo's "Creation of Adam" painted on a basement wall, dancing and making sushi and 75 other activities comprised this year's Artsfest, Thursday February 24.

The Festival, organized by Artsfest Committee, was started by Student Council in 1966 as Arts Week, which included judged arts shows, workshops and performances.

This year, Artsfest kicked off with the Opening Ceremony in Upper Kovler Gym featuring performances by Dance Troupe, Bhangra Team and a dance-off between Senior Justin Algee and Peer Leading Coordinator Chris Harper.

After an action-packed start, students attended five 45-minute workshops, and closed back in Upper Kovler with a beatboxing performance by "The Human Beatbox" Yuri Lane.

Mr. Lane did an original beatboxing routine, improvised pieces based on students' lives and beatboxed through a harmonica.

That night also saw the debut of six student-directed, produced and performed plays in Student Experimental Theater.



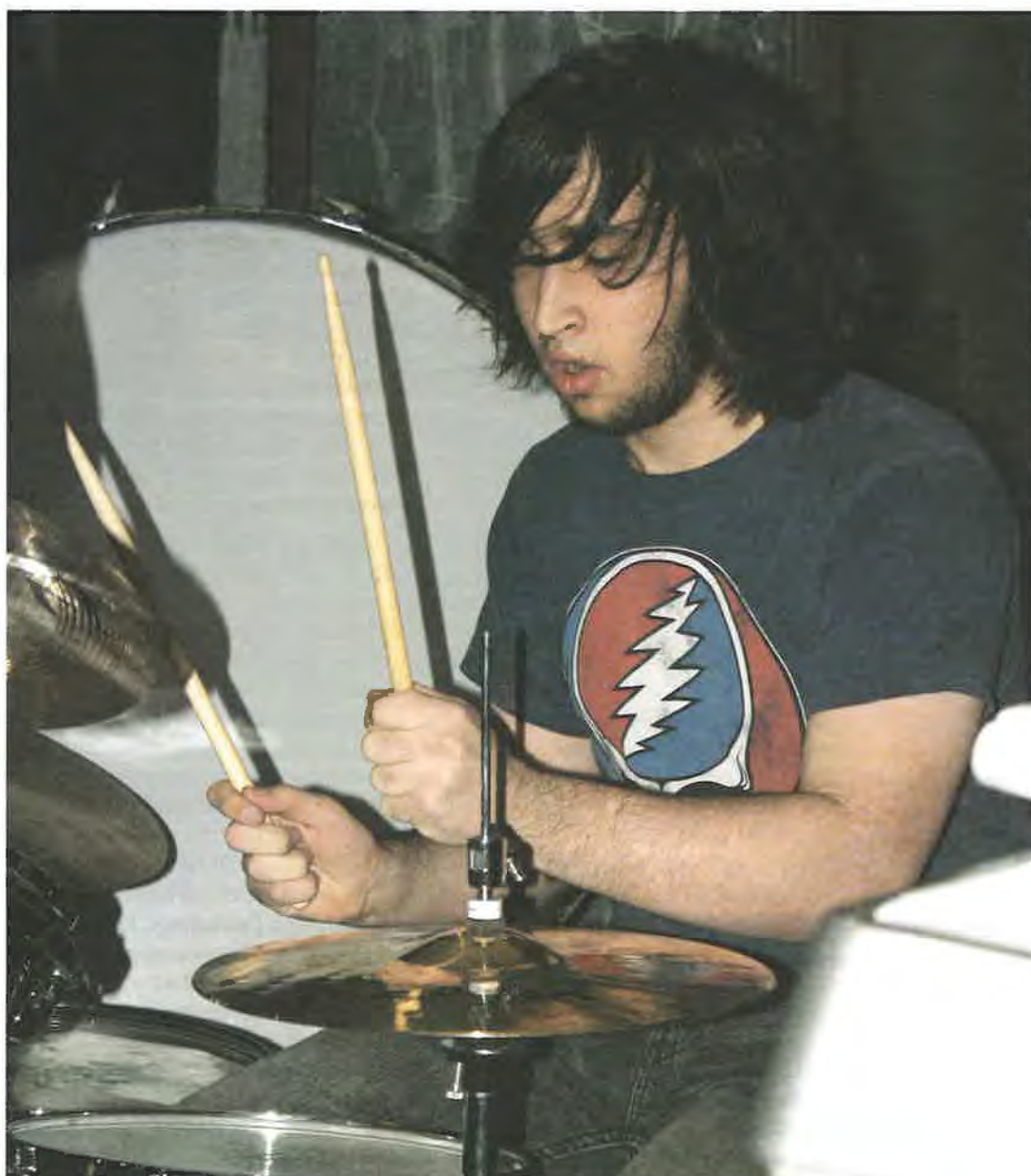
FEET STOMPING TO Usher's "DJ Got Us Falling In Love," Dance Troupe's (from left) Maya Baroody, Alexis Acosta, Sarah Husain, Stefania Gomez, Mutiat Alagbala, Ellen Ma, Lucy Huang, Maxine Nesbitt and Liv Rhodes performed three songs during the Artsfest opening ceremony. *Photo by Connie He.*



BANG! "I just got tenure!" cries Santana Iafeta portraying a playwright who is shot by the characters in his play, Sydney Fishman, left, and Stacy Gustakova. "Playwriting 101: The Rooftop Lesson" by Rich Orloff was among six student directed plays from Student Experimental Theater. *Photo by Remy Lewis.*



SOUNDS OF hip-hop and R&B reverberate through the Senior Lounge as the "Falsett Bros," consisting of, from left, Matt Hanessian, Jono Matthews, special guest Thomas Aquino, Jeremy Woo, Amir Hay, and Austin Morris, perform "Make It Rain (Remix)" by Fat Joe et. al. The seniors sang and rapped over instrumental tracks, with the exception of Kanye West's "Jesus Walks," which featured live drums and bass. *Photo by Connie He.*



STRIKING STICKS to drums, David Matthews jams to R&B and rock songs including Trey Songz's "Bottoms Up" for the "Super Group" workshop 2nd period in the Senior Lounge, which he led with Jono Matthews, Ben Buchheim-Jurisson and Sam Frampton in the Senior Lounge. *Photo by Anisha Sisodia.*



MOTORCYCLE ENGINE REVS fill Upper Kovler Gym as "The Human Beatbox," Yuri Lane shows off his beatboxing skills during the closing ceremony. Mr. Lane led a beatboxing workshop earlier, where he taught students how to make beats and rhythms using only their mouths. *Photo by Veronica Ramirez.*



HIGH PITCHED SQUEAKS fill the cafeteria as, from left, Maddie Raskin, Molly Rosenzweig, Isabel Soble, Rachel Buikema, Laura Anderson, Joey Peng and others learn how to make balloon animals such as dogs and giraffes from Steven Glick during his aptly titled workshop, "How to Make Balloon Animals." Steven boasts three years experience and professional experience making balloon figures. *Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.*



EGGS, PAINT and Eastern European tradition come together as Lower School Computer Science Teacher Karen Putman teaches a family tradition in "Ukrainian Easter Egg Painting." Helen Cain, left, and Jillian Dreixler watch as Ms. Putman demonstrates the craft she learned as a child from her mother. *Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.*

A FAMILIAR FACE IN NEW ROLE

Siobhan O'Muircheartaigh
Midway reporter

After settling in as Assistant Principal in July, Learning and Counseling Department Chairperson Asra Ahmed hopes to organize monthly grade-level meetings where faculty can discuss students of concern.

Growing up in the far western suburb of Batavia along the Fox River south of Geneva, Ms. Ahmed attended Batavia High School.

SHE EARNED her undergraduate degree with a major in international studies and French at DePaul University, taught English in Korea for two years, completed a graduate degree in social work from the University of Chicago, and then served a counselor at the large Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville beginning in 2001.

She came to U-High as a counselor in 2004.

When she's not at U-High, Ms. Ahmed enjoys playing tennis and time with her husband Mr. Paul Thomas, a journalist for the pharmaceutical industry, and their two children Zayn and Alia.

Alia joins Ms. Ahmed on the daily commute from the family's Oak Park home to attend the Lab Schools.

"I WOULDN'T APPLY for an Assistant Principal position anywhere other than U-High," Ms. Ahmed said in a recent conversation in her Guidance Department office. "Here students can be almost any kind of person and find a niche. Students are really comfortable engaging with adults and are willing to seek out help. I hope to ensure students continue to feel the school truly understands them as learners and that what they have to say is important."

Selected in a process which began with more than 100 applicants, Ms. Ahmed's insightfulness and understanding of the school made her stand out among others, says U-High Principal Matt Horvat.

"WE HAVEN'T HAD an Assistant Principal since Academic Dean Cathy Feldman's retirement in 2006," Mr. Horvat explained. "We thought about hiring an Assistant Principal my second year at U-High, but the economy turned bad so the University of Chicago decided to be really careful about hiring. Last year a search committee

of four U-High faculty and three administrators tried unsuccessfully to fill the position, so we searched again this year.

"Part of the selection process involved a full-day interview with faculty and administrators. One of Ms. Ahmed's strengths is her effectiveness working with faculty. Her honesty, intelligence, problem solving skills, and ability to listen allow these meaningful interactions with students and faculty."

INTERACTING MOSTLY with faculty, Ms. Ahmed will evaluate teachers and develop curriculum, while her work with students will center on course registration and scheduling. She plans to use lessons learned as a counselor as she switches to the more faculty-centered position.

"It makes me proud that U-High is willing to hire a social worker as Assistant Principal," she said. "Typically a teacher would be chosen for the job. But as a counselor, I've learned to observe a system and see how components affect one another. This mindset will be helpful next year, since one of my goals is to facilitate communication between departments."

"Working closely with faculty, I can learn what each department wants and how curriculum can be improved. I'll then synthesize this for the whole faculty so all departments can learn from each other. We can track trends, such as common issues students are having, and then examine the curriculum to see if aspects need to be adjusted or modified."

Photo
by
Cathy
Ludwig



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ASRA AHMED

"MY BIGGEST FEAR about becoming Assistant Principal is that one day I'll walk down the hall and not know the students personally. I'm really going to miss day-to-day student interaction. I'll definitely try to be out in the hallways and the cafeteria so students have the opportunity to tell me what's going on. They seem to believe administrators are intimidating."

"But I want students to know that, even as Assistant Principal, I'll still be me. I haven't changed."

EXOTIC TASTE, EXOTIC PLACE



PREPARING TO order fine dining, from left, Kassim Husain, Louis Harboe, Sam Kaplan, Phil Healy, and Max Volchenboun enjoy the cheerful ambience of the Nile Restaurant. Photo by Jeffrey Li

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In the heart of downtown

Jones College Prep offers an experience that draws the best of the best to apply

Rafi Khan
Editor-in-Chief

At exactly 2:50 p.m. one recent chilly Friday afternoon, a loud, electronic buzz signals day's end at Jones College Prep, one of Chicago's six magnet high schools, located in the heart of Downtown Chicago.

Within minutes, the vast, glass-walled hallway at the school's center known as "The Link" fills with chatty, boisterous students. A tall, burly senior thumps out a thunderous beat with his hands against the wall, accompanied by a small girl who taps a lively rhythm with her knuckles.

TO THIS SOUNDTRACK, students hurriedly collect their books and bags from the tall, deep blue lockers lining The Link, eager to start the weekend.

Some have already descended into the Red Line Subway stop just 50 feet beyond the glass walls, on the other side of the compact, concrete courtyard.

Laughing with her friends, Senior Mari Rodriguez, donning a grey hoodie and skinny jeans, scrunches up her face and begins hopping from foot to foot, whirling her arms as if she were driving a wheelchair.

AT JONES, this extravagant dance is known as the Catdaddy.

According to Mari and her friends, knowing how to Catdaddy is an unofficial requirement for any true student at Jones College Prep, 606 South State Street.

The white concrete school building started as a commercial school in 1967, designed to resemble the offices where its students would eventually work. In the 80s, the Chicago Board of Education changed Jones to a magnet school that draws students from all over Chicago. Now it boasts the city's lowest acceptance rates, with about 31 8th graders vying for every one spot last year, and a 2007 ranking as one of U.S. News and World Report's Top 100 High Schools.

ABOUT A THIRD of Jones' approximately 850 students identify as Hispanic, 30 percent as white and 25 percent as black. More than half come from low-income families and the last two years, the graduating class received more than \$15 million in scholarships.

The students' diversity, both in race and socio-economic background, make them engaging and challenging to teach, says Principal Joseph Powers, an experienced educator sporting a professional shirt, tie and slacks. Perched in his black high-backed executive chair within his spacious but cluttered office, he says that at the core of the curriculum, teachers emphasize building strong relationships.

"Though we do stress success on tests like the ACT and state exam, Jones emphasizes most on the importance of building relationships," explains Dr. Powers, who holds a Ph.D. in education from Lindonwood University in Missouri. "Since nearly everyone comes into freshman year from a different middle school, everyone has a clean slate to start. From there, we try to make sure they develop good relationships with everyone at school and in their families.

"BEING A SCHOOL in the middle of the city, we don't have a lot of common things," Dr. Powers continues with his firm, confident tone. "We don't have a library, or a gym. For Homecoming, we rent out an entire "L" train and ferry everybody to and from a gym on the North Side. But we are planning expansions right next door; an eight-story tower that'll consolidate all our buildings between four walls.

"Like any other Chicago public school, we recently took budget cuts, but the Friends of Jones, a parent group that helps fund school programs, has helped tremendously in offsetting that. Last year, parents raised \$50,000 so we could get new computers and keep all of our extracurricular activities."

For each "Jonesite," every school day starts at 8:00 a.m., after they've passed their I.D. card by one of several grey scanners in the main entrance. They then pass through a tall, grey metal detector, shepherded by jovial security guards who casually chat with students.

AFTER THEIR 45-minute morning classes that meet five days a week, students head to lunch during one of four lunch periods, either in the compact cafeteria or at one of numerous restaurants just blocks away, after swiping their I.D. card out. The Potbelly's down the street proves a popular lunch spot for Seniors Manny Valle, Abby Fraser and Amina Dreessen, a former Lab Schools Middle Schooler. Sporting a grey cardigan, white tank top and black jeans, Amina says she loves how Jones students interact and integrate with the city.

"I think I've had a lot more fun here than I would have had at Lab," Amina says, chomping a bite from Manny's sandwich. "I probably didn't get as good an academic education, but socially, Jones gave me so much more. Not only are there so many different kinds of people here, you get exposed to Chicago in its entirety. At Lab, I felt the community was almost completely isolated from the city."

Being in the heart of Downtown has other perks, too, explains one of Amina's best friends, Senior Faith McGlothlin.

"JONES HAS such a diverse, weird fusion of people that anyone you wanna meet, people similar to you or different, you can," explains Faith, who who dons a black and white striped sweater, black skinny jeans and black leather boots to match her long black hair. "Plus, we have the entire city of Chicago surrounding us, which you don't get anywhere else. We even get free tickets to the Goodman Theater and some musicals in the city!"

"Though we're a part of the city, we still have school spirit. It used to really

suck, but since our sports teams started improving recently, more people come to sporting events. Still, students tend to participate much more in clubs. There are clubs for everything, like the Eco-city club, Build-On, which sends students abroad for community service, and the love of my life, theatre."

Jones enjoys a citywide reputation of having excellent arts programs, which Art Karen Stolzenberg Teacher credits to the depth of Jones' art curriculum.

"WE HAVE a lot of creative students who make both our Performing and Visual Arts departments excellent," she says.

THROUGH THE GLASS walls in the main entrance, students can see the bustling city. Every day, each "Jonesite" passes by the I.D. scanners and metal detectors.

"Not only that, but we teach specialty classes like Metalsmithing and Advanced Design and Graphics. We don't put a special focus on the arts, but we teach it in a way so students will respect it and realize the value of art in their lives."

Photos by Crystal Maciel



AFTER LUNCH, Abby Fraser, Amina Dreessen and Manny Valle chat in front of one of several student-painted mural.



A BRIGHT SPARK from her torch welds the metal Lauren Washington works with for her Metalsmithing class.



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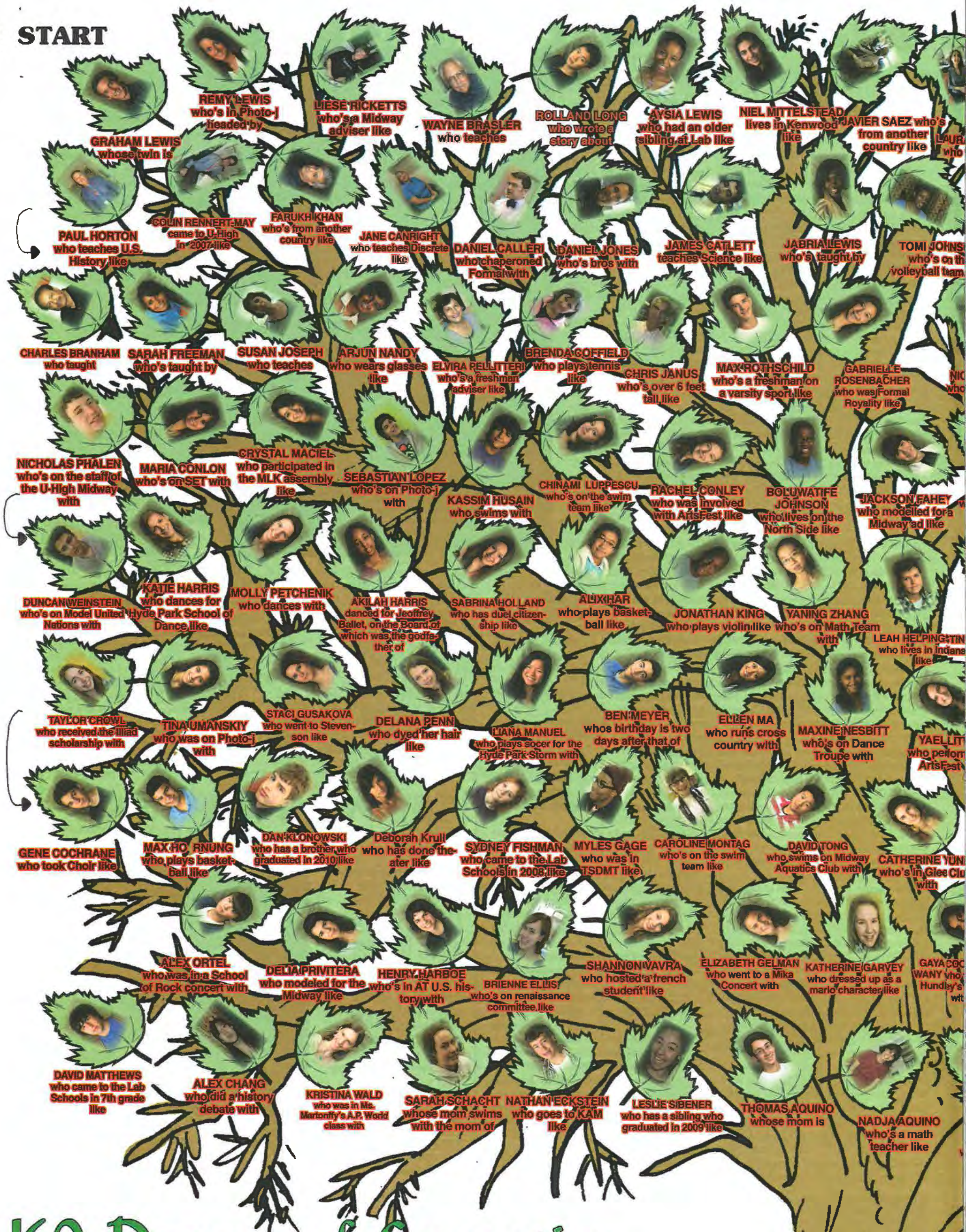
AFTER CHATTING WITH a friendly stylist, Sophomore Rachel Buikema ponders an elegant updo. When she's done, Rachel plans to select a new conditioner to keep her hair light and full as the days warm up. Photo by Remy Lewis.

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Photos by Remy Lewis, Cathy Ludwig, Jackie Robertson and Anisha Sisodia

AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT



Art by Gene Cochrane

Welcome a familiar, savvy guide to a revived position

Come July, U-Highers will have a new administrator.

Well, not really "new."

Learning and Counseling Chairperson Asra Ahmed's recent appointment to assistant principal revives a role that's been called academic dean and curriculum director.

Five years ago when Academic Dean Cathy Feldman retired, the position faded out and recent attempts to resuscitate it failed because of the economic downturn. But last year, a search committee finally decided to appoint Ms. Ahmed after tult-day interviews with four or five candidates.

After all the deliberation, the committee made the right choice.

According to the school's website, Ms. Ahmed will "support the school working with teachers and the student course registration process, among other responsibilities."

Ms. Ahmed brings a wealth of counseling and organizational experience to the position, but most importantly offers an intimate knowledge of U-High students and faculty after seven years as a counselor. Ms. Ahmed takes the time to think before she speaks, considering how her decisions will affect others and taking their feelings into account.

Ms. Ahmed's leadership shone through especially last Spring Break, after the biking accident that killed Faith Dremmer and wounded Julia Baird and Kaia Tammen, all then seniors. Ms. Ahmed, as chairperson, and the rest of the Guidance Department acted immediately and thoughtfully. Many counselors cut their breaks short, coming to school immediately after hearing about the tragedy. They spoke to media, and opened their office doors and phone lines to the entire U-High community.

So when Ms. Ahmed becomes assistant principal in July, the leadership won't really be new to her, either.

Easy win, but not-so-easy problems

It's not like no one saw this coming.

In the February 22 mayoral election, Mayor Elect Rahm Emanuel crushed his six opponents with 55 percent of Chicagoans' votes. His victory followed a five month campaign since departing as President Barack Obama's chief of staff, including a lawsuit about his residency and eligibility to run as mayor.

The lawsuit he won with minimal damage to his image.

And now the pragmatic and notoriously profane former U.S. Representative will take office as Chicago's first Jewish mayor.

Mayor Richard M. Daley leaves a formidable legacy as Chicago's head executive. He beautified Chicago by initiating the planting of more than 600,000 trees and the construction of more than 85 miles of landscaped medians. He built Millennium Park and turned Chicago into a booming business district by luring corporations such as the Boeing Company and United Continental to Chicago with financial incentives. And he tore down many projects to transform many poor neighborhoods into

residential communities.

Not to say no problems remain for Mr. Emanuel to fix.

Perhaps most pressing is Chicago's \$500 million budget deficit. Mr. Emanuel has proposed cutting the pensions of all city employees and broadening the sales tax. While that challenge may prove difficult for Chicagoans, his plan would help to bring money into the city and lower the deficit.

Then, Mr. Emanuel faces the challenge of fixing the failing Chicago Public Schools, where test scores constantly fall and class sizes increase. Mr. Emanuel hopes to improve teacher training and increase instruction time while decreasing class sizes.

Then there's the city's persistent violence. While Mayor Daley did improve some neighborhoods, there remain others that Mr. Emanuel will look to improve by increasing the number of policemen on the street, fighting for stronger gun laws, and cutting down on youth violence.

As for City Hall's notorious corruption...well, Mr. Emanuel had better take things one step at a time.

Midway Mailbox

Classroom setup proves tough for shy students

From Tina Umanskiy, senior:

ONE OF THE most striking differences between U-High and public high schools is the initial set up of the classroom.

Most rooms are set up in circles or in a roundtable fashion, meaning that most classes are discussion-based classes.

BUT WHAT HAPPENS to those students who are afraid to talk in class in front of their peers? Grade deductions and forms of assessments such as quizzes or papers are the usual punishments for those of us who choose to keep quiet.

As a new student at U-High last year, the biggest punishment I faced was when my teachers assumed that I didn't do my work or I was not grasping the material. It's a legitimate assumption that when a student does not participate in class they must not be doing the work.

But what happens when a student does their work for class everyday, but is afraid to talk in class or feels that they learn better from soaking in the material instead of explaining it to the class?

THE TEACHER does not assign quizzes or other ways of assessing the students' work, so the teacher assumes the student does not understand.

However, the majority of teachers here who take participation as a large grade consideration utilize other methods of assessing understanding, which allow quiet students to do well.

I do not want to sound ungrateful for the wonderful education I am receiving here compared to my prior public high school. There I experienced daily lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and I spent my time copying notes off the board. I was never challenged to talk in class, nor was I given the opportunity to participate.

I FULLY APPRECIATE the ability and dedication of all the teachers at the Lab Schools because of their interactive and personalized teaching styles. It is unfortunate that from my prior educational background I was not able to fully assimilate into this vibrant and rewarding learning culture, but I know that there are others out there just like me.

Perfectly capable students are looked at with a sense of disappointment by their teachers because they choose to keep quiet in class. I am not trying to be belligerent, but rather I am trying to give our teachers a second point of view: that of the quiet, well-prepared student.

The classes in which the teachers lead strictly discussion-based classes with few assessments of overall understanding become torturous for quiet students. In the end, us shy ones are punished and looked down upon by teachers because of our fear and discomfort of talking in class.

IS THIS FAIR?

I think not.



Tina

SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Spencer Lee

If Justin Bieber were your foreign exchange student (he's from Canada) what would you do?



Matt

MATT SOBLE, senior: I would take him to get a haircut immediately.

SONYA DHINDSA, junior: I would make him sing for me all the time.



Sonya



Maxine

MAXINE NESBITT, sophomore: I would keep him in my closet and tell everyone else that he's dead so I can have him all to myself.

NOAH BRAENDEL, freshman: Hang out with him constantly. With celebrities comes attention and girls and who wouldn't want that?



Noah

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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ARTISTS

Gene Cochrane, Michael Bissonnette

FACULTY ADVISERS

Editorial and business

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Spencer Lee and William Chung
Fashion columnists

S: Well we all know what kids these days are wearing...

W: Question is, what are teachers wearing?

S: I know a couple teachers have unique senses of style. For instance, I know Science Teacher Daniel Calleri has been wearing colorful bow ties since high school and doesn't plan on stopping.

W: You know, I think everyone has noticed his bow ties. Where does he get them?

S: He orders them from a catalog, Beau Ties Ltd. of Vermont, a classy company featuring only bowties and neckties. He also said he has about 24 of them, which, come to think of it, isn't really surprising.

W: Yeah, I mean he only wears one every day.

S: He likes to stand out. He told me there is nothing wrong with being different from other people, and if you're a teacher, you should dress like a teacher. He wrote a column in the Midway asking U-High gentlemen to dress more fashionably for the Winter Formal dance.

W: That takes some *chutzpah*. Didn't really work out though...

S: Too true. Are there any other teachers who dress to impress?

W: There's History Teacher Chris Janus. He appreciates quality, but comfort is the main factor in his fashion sense.

S: Yeah, he always dazzles students with his pink shirts and spiffy khakis. He manages to look good without putting a lot of effort into his style. And have you seen his perfectly coiffed hair?

W: Totally, Bro! He has a few favorite stores, like Orivis, a fly-fishing and hunting store that he's been going to for a while.

S: Mr. Janus also said that he also goes to Paul Stuart, a high-end boutique with knowledgeable sales staff who remember your name and tastes.

W: Sounds like quite the place, he did say he appreciates a conservative look.

S: Any other teachers that stand out to you?

W: Yup, History Teacher Cindy Jurisson has clothes with lots of history. Her mom was a seamstress and Ms. Jurisson treasures the garments she made for her back in the day.



HER MOTHER'S TALENTS continue to influence Ms. Cindy Jurisson's style as she still sports the vibrant garments her mom made for her. Photo by Sarah Husain.

S: That's pretty cool. She also looks fly with the ponchos she wears sometimes. Is there anything else that has special meaning to her?

W: She has a shirt that she bought in The Hague, Holland. Also her mom and dad are from Norway and Estonia and she has a lot of handmade sweaters from both countries that she wears regularly.

S: I never knew teachers had a capability of being so fashionable.

W: Right? It kind of makes me proud to be a U-Higher.



ALWAYS COMFORTABLE, Mr. Chris Janus never fails to impress with his ever-famous vests that he picks out at Paul Stuart. Photo by Sarah Husain.



CLASSY BOWTIES always adorn Mr. Daniel Calleri's daily formal ensemble. Photo by Remi Lewis

COOKING WITH NICK CHASKIN

This tasty pastry is no puff piece

LATELY, I KNOW I've been on a bit of a savory binge in my column. I fear I've lost touch with my roots.

Working in a professional bakery the last two years, I can confidently tell you that one of the most valuable things you can learn to make is the versatile hollow pastry shell known as *pâté au choux*.

This dough's most common application is the delicious and popular éclair. However, it can also be filled with savory cheese fillings, tart lemon curd or ice cream and chocolate sauce to make *profiteroles*.

TO BEGIN you'll need:

4 ounces of cake flour

5 1/2 ounces of bread flour

1 pint of water

6 ounces of unsalted butter

(1 1/2 sticks)

3/4 tsp of salt

1 pint of eggs

(around 8 large eggs)

1 tsp baking soda



Nick

Start by sifting your flours together, which will help prevent lumps later. Then place the water, salt and butter in a medium size sauce pan and bring to a rolling boil to emulsify the fat.

WHEN IT'S boiling, reduce the heat and add the flour in three batches. If you add it too fast, the flour will clump. Keep stirring until you get a smooth dough that pulls away from the sides. Stir in the baking soda.

Turn off the heat and let the dough cool for a minute before continuing. Then add the eggs two at a time, completely mixing each into the dough before adding the next set. At times, it might seem as if the dough won't absorb all the eggs or you're stirring cement, but keep at it—all will work out eventually.

When finished, the dough should look soft but hold its shape firmly. Transfer it to a piping bag and pipe into a desired shape. If you don't want to invest in a piping bag, I often use a zip lock bag with a corner cut off. Cook the shells at 425 degrees for 10-15 minutes until they're well browned, puffy and seem hollow.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER removing the shells from the oven, be sure to poke holes in the tops with a tooth pick so the steam can escape. If you neglect this step the shells will become soggy. And *voilà*, you have tasty, hollow, versatile pastry shells.



CAREFULLY STIRRING flour into a boiling hot water, salt and butter mixture, Nick Chaskin readies the smooth dough for his *profiteroles*. Photo by Sarah Husain.

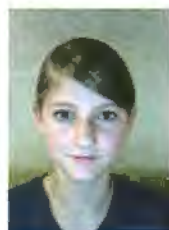
Lorem Ipsum.....by Gene Cochrane



FILM MOIRA DIFFERDING

Despite graphic gore, 'The Eagle' fails to fly

RAW AND BLOODY battle scenes involving screaming warriors throwing themselves suicidally at enemy soldiers hog the screen-time in "The Eagle," a box office flop based on warfare between British Natives and Roman Empire Soldiers in second century Britain.



Moira

Director Kevin Macdonald's wannabe historic film follows Roman warrior has-been Marcus Aquila (Channing Tatum) as he searches for his father's legacy: a golden eagle totem that represented the 5,000-man-strong Roman Army Ninth Legion.

His father had shamed his family name by leading the Ninth Legion to death past unexplored Northern British territory beyond Hadrian's Wall, a barrier created by Romans to keep the fiercest native British tribes from attacking their people to get their land back.

BEFORE HIS QUEST, Aquila had been discharged from the army after a

leg wound. Bored and upset with his laid-back life. But after a very small amount of thinking, he decides to search through the north past Hadrian's Wall with his scrawny British slave Esca (Jamie Bell) to find the totem and bring honor back to his family.

While Macdonald designed "The Eagle" as a historical film, he took liberties when portraying British natives. Their makeup and language aren't consistent with historians' consensus and the music following their few nonviolent arrivals seemed stereotypical.

This detracts from the movie, because the film's suspense and mystery largely rests on the natives of North Britain, given that they are human.

ALSO, FIGURING out their enigmatic attack strategy is tricky, since they strike out at seemingly random times.

Filmed in the vast wildernesses of Hungary and Scotland, the movie's cinematography features flourishing scenery with serene grace, contrasting the wildly shaky and loud battle scenes.

Squandering countless plot opportunities, Macdonald bothers himself



MARCUS FLAVIA AQUILA, (Channing Tatum) sizes up a rogue enemy warrior during his quest to restore his family's honor in Kevin Macdonald's "The Eagle." Photo courtesy of about.com

only in crafting epically bloody fighting scenes. Specifically, the relationship between Marcus and Esca is never explored: They they never converse, but somehow wind up as best friends as the movie goes on.

THE BATTLE STRATEGIES and

fight scenes are intense. Watching natives charge Roman shield blocks and flip over their heads still slashing with axes while the battle still rages is awesome, while suspenseful pre-battle scenes create tension make for an engaging story.

OPINION AKILA RAOUL

Madness? This is college basketball!

NOW THAT FEBRUARY has ended, we have entered into the slightly rainier, typically still snowy, days of March.

And with the advent of March comes "March Madness." Exactly 64 college basketball teams striving for the championship. College basketball round the clock for at least three weeks. I don't understand how it never gets tiring.

First, there's the excitement of the "Sweet Sixteen." Then, the anticipation of the "Elite Eight." The "Final Four" follows, and finally the coveted championship game.



Akila

From start to finish, March Madness is, by no means, just about basketball. Beforehand, millions gather around their televisions to watch "Selection Sunday," where teams are given their seeds in the tournament.

Afterwards, basketball enthusiasts, unlike myself, make picks for winning teams in the tournament. Websites, such as CBSsportsline.com, offer online brackets for users to submit their picks via the Internet. Still, I don't really see the appeal.

Now don't get me wrong. While football is still a foreign world to me, I can still enjoy basketball. In moderation.

I know that I for one can't spend a more than an hour-and-a-half, at most, watching basketball. I need variety and prefer to spend my time watching shows on The Food Network. Yet, in my family I am often overruled.

For example, I'll be settling down on a Saturday afternoon, looking forward to watching "Cupcake Wars," when I'll be ousted off the couch to make room for the testosterone-high males of the family (or however much testosterone a 7- and 10-year-old can have). The channel will be changed to CBS or ESPN faster than you can say "creampuff."

Several times I have been accused of "not being black enough," because I don't love basketball. I will be the first person to say that I suck at the sport, seeing as I can't jump high and I am a measly 5 feet 2 inches.

Yet, somehow my deficiency at basketball is linked to my "blackness." This is something I don't understand.

Basketball is an interesting sport and it's not as violent as football, but I have a problem with watching just that. There is no law that states every black person must obsess over basketball.

Personally, March Madness just isn't that big of a deal.

But by all means, go mad.

CURRENT EVENTS NICK PHALEN

Preserve unions, preserve education

AS MANY U-Highers would concede, good teachers make good classes.

The best teachers are revered by students long after graduation. In fact, Youtube is home to a video of U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, U-High Class of '82, with English Teacher Darlene McCampbell, his favorite high school teacher.

RECENTLY, THOUGH, newly elected Republican governors have increasingly targeted public teachers' unions in an effort to balance their states' budgets.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, most prominent of the union busters, announced a budget repair bill last month aiming to strip many public employees of their collective bargaining rights.

With wide majorities in both state houses Walker was assured passage of his bill until 14 Democratic Wisconsin State Senators fled to Illinois, preventing a quorum in the Wisconsin Senate.

SOON, MADISON was flooded with protesters. Walker's office estimated he received over 1,000 protest emails each hour.

Nearly 100,000 protesters roamed the streets with picket signs, some staying overnight in the State Capitol building.

Last week, the high-profile appearance of filmmaker Michael Moore reenergized crowds as Moore threw his support behind public employees' rights.

REPUBLICAN 2012 HOPEFULS got behind the effort. Former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty and Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich both expressed support online.

All over the country conservative pundits fell over each other racing to pen editorials labeling teachers the source of states' budget woes.

"Mr. Walker is taking meaningful steps to achieve fiscal balance," Karl Rove, former Aide to President George W. Bush, wrote in a Wall Street Journal editorial last month. While this idea goes on a page smoothly, its debatable accuracy is often overlooked.

EARLIER THIS YEAR Walker passed \$117 million in business tax cuts, adding to the deficit he aims to reduce on the backs of public employees, according to the Associated Press.

Also, two major teachers unions in the state agreed to the financial concessions contained in the bill, as long as they were able to keep their collective bargaining rights.

Sounds reasonable enough, but apparently not to Walker. His plan seems obvious. Use a deficit he helped create to cripple public sector unions permanently.

Hopefully, U-Highers can see through the deception.



Nick

MUSIC SAM FRAMPTON

Stetson boasts new technique

A SINGLE saxophone resonates with the full force of an orchestra in Colin Stetson's second release, "New History Warfare Vol. 2: Judges."

Known for his powerful technical command of the bass saxophone, the Montreal-based Stetson has become a fixture in indie rock circles. His past collaborations range from Lou Reed to TV on the Radio.



Sam

Most recently, Stetson appeared on Arcade Fire's Grammy-winning album "The Suburbs" and has announced plans to become a touring member of Bon Iver.

With 2008's "New History Warfare Vol. 1," Stetson introduced a fresh, detailed and expansive approach to

his craft.

A playing technique called circular breathing, in which he stores air in his mouth, allows him to unleash streams of notes for minutes at a time without stopping to take a breath.

He sang melodies, simultaneously accompanying them with dissonant chords and creating percussive

effects using the saxophone's keys.

WITH "VOL. 2," Stetson has cemented his mastery of the techniques from "Vol. 1," allowing himself more room to focus on creating effective compositions.

The album maintains a decidedly dark and melancholy tone, while varying the intensity between the violent shrieks of "The Stars in His Head" and the pensive lurch of "Home."

Guest vocals by Laurie Anderson and Shara Worden jar the flow at times, though the lyrics are appropriately moody.

During the course of "New History Warfare Vol. 2: Judges," Colin Stetson makes the listener forget that the album only includes one instrumentalist.

More importantly, he combines his technique with enough sheer musicality to eliminate all prospects of being labeled a gimmick.

And he succeeded.



Photojournalist Showcase

First of a series of three pages

Sarah Husain

PAGE 15 • U-High Midway • Tuesday, March 15, 2011



Portraits of a Windy City frozen in Winter beauty

Photographing to capture memorable moments and relax, Junior Sarah Husain began taking pictures at age 6 when she received her first digital camera from her dad.

Usually seen in skinny jeans, boots, and a cardigan, Sarah serves as Midway and U-Highlights photojournalist and a U-Highlights editor-in-chief.

"Growing up, I was always the one in my family responsible for taking photos wherever we went," Sarah said. "My dad began to critique my photos starting in the 6th grade, and I seriously started photographing in the 8th grade. Up until then I used a normal digital camera, but then I started to use my dad's old single-lens reflex camera, which I loved. I eventually got my own in 8th grade."

"Photography is what allows me to remember and look back at all the fun things I've done

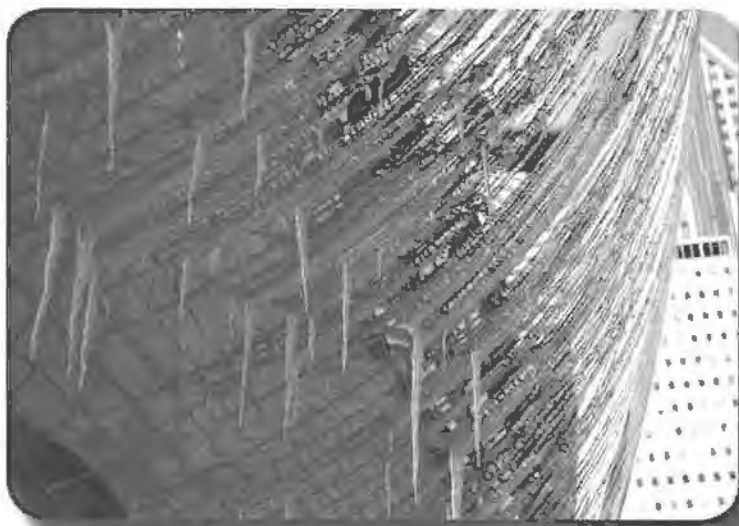
in my life. I love that when I see a beautiful skyline or the perfect sunset, I can take a picture and look back at it whenever I want. Photography also magically relaxes me. Whenever I'm stressed, I pick up my camera and go outside. It always works."

Sarah's photo showcase portrays places she sees everyday in the midst of a Chicago winter.

"When Ms. Liese Ricketts asked our Photojournalism class last year about our photo topics, I decided right there that I wanted to take photos that have to do with winter because it's my favorite time of the year," Sarah said.

"These photos are special to me not only because I put a lot of work and time into taking and choosing them, but they were also all taken in places that I see daily. It's cool that I get to show people these places through my photography."

"I GOT really lucky with this photo. I took it on January 23, the same day as the skyline photo. It is a picture of icicles hanging off of the Bean in Millennium Park. I almost didn't take the photo because it was so cold outside. I probably have 50 photos of the Bean during different seasons, but I had never taken any with icicles on it."



"I TOOK this by the fountains in Millennium Park on January 30. I was walking home from my piano lesson, and it was a warmer day so the melted snow turned Millennium Park into a giant puddle. I spent a good 20 minutes walking around and taking photos of reflections. But to other people it looked like I was taking pictures of the ground. I got a lot of strange looks that day."



"I CHOSE this photo as the dominant photo for my photo showcase," Sarah said, "because I thought it summed up what I had focused on capturing: Chicago Winters. I took this from my bedroom window on January 23. I live near Randolph and Michigan, which is very close to the Lake. It had just snowed the night before so Chicago was blanketed in snow and the sky was clear. I have taken this same photo about a hundred different ways because this view is my favorite to photograph. I love that I can see the skyline and the lake, which you can't see from every room in my condo."



"THIS PHOTO was taken on the day of the first snow, December 27. I was walking home from my piano lesson and stopped to look at the lions in front of the Art Institute. It was snowing giant fluffy snowflakes so I had a lot of fun taking this photo. I thought it was cool that they decorated the lions with a wreath of ornaments this year; and with the snow falling and the city lights, it produced a very nice shot."

Public schools at a crossroads

Charter institutions could collide with future of community-centric education

Leah Barber
Midway reporter

Chicago education: A historic problem with no clear solution yet.

Responding to poor performance of neighborhood schools, which automatically admit students from their district, Mayor Richard M. Daley and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, former Chicago Public Schools CEO, enacted a plan in 2004 to close 60 schools and replace them with 100 new independent public schools. Named Renaissance 2010, the project completed its goal to have the schools implemented by last year.

Of the 103 institutions opened, most are charter schools, which are privately run but publically funded and have freedoms most neighborhood schools don't.

But though some represent better options, and are held to a higher accountability, charters aren't necessarily an improvement dire neighborhood schools, according to Timothy Knowles, Director of the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute.

"CHARTER SCHOOLS are not a silver bullet," Mr. Knowles said. "At their best, they are part of a solution. They provide new options for children and families that need them most and they create a space for innovation."

"For parents looking for better school options, particularly for parents living in communities with large numbers of failing schools, effective charter schools are critical. That said, there are many charter schools that are no better than traditional schools, so parents need to look carefully."

The Urban Education Institute operates the University of Chicago Charter Schools, with four campuses.

"The goal of our elementary, middle and high school campuses is straightforward," Mr. Knowles continued, "to demonstrate when children growing up in urban America are taught and supported well from prekindergarten through 12th grade, they can enter college and succeed when they get there."

"GIVEN THAT education remains the only viable escape hatch from poverty, it is safe to say the precollegiate escape hatch in Chicago is, basically, welded shut."

Problems with closing neighborhood schools surfaced when CPS made the decision to shut down Austin Community Academy High School on the West Side and send students to Roberto Clemente High School in Humboldt Park, according to CPS Director of Family and Community Engagement Bill Gerstein.

"Austin stopped taking freshmen in 2003," explained Mr. Gerstein, a former principal of Austin Polytechnical High School, one of the three schools that replaced Austin Community Academy. "The school was phased out over the

next three years, and the kids that lived in the area didn't have a school to attend. When they were sent to Clemente, there was a lot of fighting between different communities. Austin students were African-American while most of the students at the receiving school were Latino. That along with gang issues created tensions that resulted in a spike in violence at the schools."

"THE SCHOOL I taught at in Austin spent \$6,000 per pupil. It's an unfair system. I hope it doesn't remain this way, but for now, it's the way it is."

CPS students experienced violence again when administrators closed Carver High School and sent students to nearby Fenger High School.

Hostility between Carver students, mostly from the Far South Side housing project Altgeld Gardens, and original Fenger students erupted in 2009 and resulted in 16-year-old Derrion Albert being beaten to death. A video of the beating, which took place outside Fenger, was taken by another student caused a national uproar.

"Fenger is a good case study of how things went wrong," Mr. Gerstein explained. "When Carver was converted into a selective enrollment military school, many of the

PP

Charter schools are not a silver bullet. At their best, they are part of a solution. PP

- Timothy Knowles, Director of the University of Chicago Urban Education Institute

Altgeld Garden students didn't choose to attend that school or couldn't get accepted. By traveling to Fenger, again many miles away, they were going to school with students from other gangs. This resulted in an increase in violence at Fenger, much like what happened at Austin."

DURING THE TRIAL, Derrion's mother, Anjanette Albert, told one of the students sentenced that there was no need for an apology, according to the Chicago Tribune.

"There is no apology you could ever offer me that could make me forgive you. You helped steal not just a part of myself; you helped destroy a family."

Because of what happened at neighborhood schools like Austin and Fenger, the Chicago Board of Education approved a charter school expansion last month for around 6,000 students, hoping to get rid of problems caused when closing

neighborhood schools and sending students to others.

WHILE CHARTERS ARE rapidly expanding, they aren't yet an option for all students in dismal neighborhood schools. According to Mr. Gerstein, new ideas for improvement are surfacing, like including the community in school decisions.

"I am bothered that there are too many schools that are default schools for students who have academic and social issues. Those schools have a hard time improving," Gerstein said. "My position at CPS is to work with communities to provide information about how their schools are doing so that they can create strategic plans that can be taken to the CEO of CPS for possible implementation. We have had the support of our elected officials for this approach."

The School Action Process, a project led by Mr. Gerstein which includes parents and other members of the community to help improve unsuccessful neighborhood schools, is intended to prevent closing of existing schools.

"WE ARE HOPING that the next mayor, Rahm Emanuel, is supportive of our approach to community engagement," Mr. Gerstein said. "Nobody knows the answer to better education in Chicago, but we do know part of it. First, we know early childhood education makes a big difference. We know the health of the students make a big difference. We know extending the school day makes a big difference. And, of course, we know great teachers are incredibly important social supports and are essential for improved outcomes."

Many U-High teachers, including Mr. Paul Horton, history, believe improving neighborhood schools starts in the community and at home.

"The perception of the people that are still in poor neighborhood schools is that they're not as important as kids in magnet schools," Mr. Horton explained. "You have to provide good education for the entire community, not just the best students, and the level of education must be raised for all students. The bottom line is providing support for the community and dealing with issues of Family, educators and administrators have to work together to really support a student, and that's why programs like Head Start are so effective. But you have to provide programs like these for everybody."

"Too much money is going into CPS's central office and into their administrative budget. Take that money and invest it into the classroom. Stop giving all the money to buildings and technology and put in better early childhood education, teachers in the classroom who have degrees in what they teach, student teachers so there is increased contact time for students. The thing that makes a school is the relationship between student and teacher."

FROM COOKIES TO COFFEE...

Photos by Veronica Ramirez



FAMISHED, Mike Baroody munches on a tasty chocolate chip cookie. But something's not quite right...



EUREKA! Mike returns to the counter, and retrieves a rich Cup o' Joe to whet his palate. Mission accomplished.

WE GOT YOU.

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Brief-ly

Puppet to turn human at Rites

A nose will grow again at this year's Rites of May as the Spring Production brings "Pinocchio" back to the outdoor stage Thursday-Saturday, May 19-21.

Tryouts took place last week.

The 1851 Carlo Collodi tale of a wooden puppet who wants to become a human boy has been presented here twice before, in 1994 and 2004.

The productions were different, but both were based on the original story instead of the famous Walt Disney animated film, which lightened the darker elements of the story and changed certain aspects of characters.

■ **RED LIGHTS AND STOP SIGNS** couldn't halt Driver's Ed at U-High.

After multiple cancellations and rescheduling, Illinois Driving School is now handling Driver's Ed with 30 students enrolled.

"Driver's Ed used to be run through Chicago Public Schools," Principal Matt Horvat said. "But under financial constraint, they cut funding for independent schools. After these reductions, we investigated in an outside organization for U-High's driving program."

"Ned Reece, our director of auxiliary programs, found Illinois Driving School, which now runs Driver's Ed. The cost of the new class increased, from \$115 to \$245, but interest spiked as well."

Taught by Mr. Andy Danek and Mr. Randy Zietara, the class meets Tuesday and Thursday after school for 90 minutes.

■ **U-HIGH PHOTOGRAPHERS** will be among those from seven Chicago-area high schools will their work exhibited in a show at Stuart-Rodgers Gallery beginning with a reception 5:30-8:30 p.m., Friday, April 15. The show will run through May 13, with the artists competing for prizes and half of any sales going back to the schools' yearbooks.

The exhibit's theme is "Discovery 2011: Documenting the Action, Emotion and Stories of Student Life."

Stuart-Rodgers is U-High's longtime photographer of student portraits for the yearbook.

The other highschools with artists in the show include Latin, Loyola, St. Scholastica, New Trier, Barrington and Glenbrook North.

■ **FRUSTRATED WITH TRYING** to locate the work of photographers at a single source, Photography and Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts took matters into her own hands last month and started a Facebook page named "A New History of Photography."

She used photographers' postings on Facebook, added some of her friends who were photographers and a beginning group of about 100 quickly grew to 600 from all over the world.

"Indeed," Ms. Ricketts said, "some of the finest photographers in the world have personally added their websites for viewing. Photographers from Africa, Europe,

on and off the Continent, all of North and South America, Australia, the Middle East and Asia have joined and posted their personal links."

Ms. Ricketts also set up a page for "Photo Educators: Links to Photo Artists."

Students in her Advanced Photo class have been writing the photographers about what they've learned from seeing their work. iChats are also in the process of being planned.

"This type of social media in the classroom is groundbreaking," Ms. Ricketts observed. "I am very excited about the possibilities and look forward to what all this may bring."

Across the pond, Ms. Ricketts's photography has been published in a United Kingdom arts publication, "Fatboy Review."

Her photos can be viewed at <http://www.fatboyreview.com/author/Rindex.html>.

The subject is "Faith." Ms. Ricketts took the striking black-and-white photos in East Chicago Heights, Illinois, and Gary, Indiana.

■ **COLLABORATING WITH** her father, U of C Neurologist Christopher Gomez, Sophomore Stefania Gomez saw their movie review of "The Cake Eaters" in medical journal Neurology Today's November 4, 2010 issue.

The movie follows the life of Georgia Kaminski, a girl diagnosed with Friedreich's Ataxia, her quest to find love, and lose her virginity.

"Initially, I wrote the review and my dad inserted a paragraph or so on technicalities of FA, such as what physiologically happens to people with the disease," Stefania said. "We watched the film together twice. The first time was sometime in 2010 or 2009, and then after my mom decided I should write the review, we rented it again and watched it a second time last summer."

The idea of a review came coincidentally, Stefania said.

"I wanted to review the film because I used to be obsessed with Twilight," Stefania said.

"My parents, knowing that, found a movie that had Kristen Stewart—she plays Bella, the main character in the Twilight movies—playing a girl with the disease. My dad specializes in Friedreich's Ataxia and has done years of research, and so we thought this was sort of an awesome coincidence."

"Then, my mom decided 'The Cake Eaters' would be a perfect movie for me to write a review on in Neurology Today since it connected both my interests, Kristen Stewart and Twilight, and my father's interests, Friedreich's Ataxia."

"I would be honored to have the opportunity to publish anything more in the magazine, whether it's a film review or something else," Stefania said. "I was really lucky to be able to publish this at all, but I'm hopeful."

■ **YEARBOOK TAKES TOP AWARD**—Winning First Place in the Illinois Journal-



Prestigious pianist

QUALIFYING TO PARTICIPATE in the Illinois Music Education State Festival January 26-29 in Peoria by placing 2nd chair at a District Festival, Catherine won 5th chair with the Honors Orchestra.

The Orchestra performed for under the direction of renowned Jung-Ho Park of the Interlochen Academy of Arts in Michigan.

"Our conductor thought 'Pines of Rome' by Respighi would be a very manageable

piece to put together in a short amount of time," Catherine said. "It was scary. There were around 200 people in the audience. The experience had a pretty strong influence on me. After spending three long days concentrating on music and music only, I've felt so inspired to play classical music since. I think it was my fellow musicians who affected me the most." Photo by Lili Steffen.

ism Education Association's new yearbook contest, the 2010 U-Highlights took top spot in half the contest's eight categories.

The IJEA inherited the contest from the Eastern Illinois School Press Association, which became part of the state organization this year.

As a consequence of the change, the number of books competing increased significantly, participants were told.

First place honors were earned in photography, copy, sports coverage and dividers. Second place honors came in design, theme development, and coverage and a third-place honor in graphics.

The yearbook's editors-in-chief were Isabella Prenta and Simone Baggetto, now college freshmen.

The editors-in-chief of this year's U-Highlights, Juniors Sarah Husain and Ary Hansen, have been notified by its printer, Balfour (formerly named Taylor) that a press run of their yearbook will be run for representatives to use in sales efforts and journalism workshops across the country.

"Congratulations for being included in this very select group," wrote Marketing Director Michael Cobb.

"It represents less than 5 percent of the publications Balfour Yearbooks produces annually."

The 2010 U-Highlights also will be recognized for excellence in Taylor's annual book "The Yearbook Yearbook."

■ **SEVENTEEN U-HIGHERS PERFORMED** in a recital Sunday at Fulton Recital Hall in the Goodspeed Building at the University.

Sponsored by the Music Department, the recital showcased students pursuing classical music study in voice, winds, strings and piano.

Twelve Middle School students in grades 7 and 8 also performed.

A reception followed.

U-High performers were as follows:

Seniors—Thomas Aquino, Benjamin Buccheim-Jurisson, Yael Litwin, Alexander Ni-

remberg, Ana Ovcharova.

Juniors—Catherine Yunis.

Sophomores—Emily Aitkorn, Lucas Buccheim-Jurisson, Amartya Das, Jason Deng, Runshi Gu, Emma Poison, Danny Zhang.

Freshmen—Sonia Bourdighs, Leah Helpings-tine, Lucy Huang, Lilly Zhao.

■ **UNION NEGOTIATORS**—Three teachers, a counselor and a librarian have been selected to serve as the Faculty Association's negotiating board in upcoming contract talks with University representatives.

They are as follows:

Computer Science Teacher Karen Putman, who is union president; World Language Teacher Steve Farver; Librarian Patrick Fuller; and from the Middle School, Counselor Maureen Schmidt and Humanities Teacher Jan Yourist.



New resale shop opens

INSPIRED BY Pastor Dave Helm at Holy Trinity Church, Senior Grant Hensel proved essential in opening Encore, a resale shop on 51st and Cornell benefitting Hope for Chicago, a nonprofit organization, in December.

"I wanted Encore to be a light and blessing to our community and to spread the word about our church," Grant said. "I want people to come into the store and find quality, affordable clothes, so that homeless people have something to wear. I want it to provide employment to hard working people."

"The first thing I did to get the thrift store rolling was draft a business plan. I then took this document to pastor Helm to get his input and suggestions. I presented my idea to the church elders, and they recommended that I create the store as a ministry of Hope for Chicago. I'll never forget what it felt like to walk home from Encore one day and realize 'this actually worked!' I remember being overcome with something like awe, but also thankfulness to God. This was one of the big lessons that came from my whole Encore experience." Photo by Delia Privetera.



New Shapiro Hall soon will rise

DEMOLITION HAS BEGUN on the old Doctor's Hospital on Stony Island to make way for the Lab Schools' new Early Childhood Campus. The building is projected to open in 2013. It has been named in honor of Mr. Earl Shapiro, Class of 1956. He, his wife Brenda and their children Mathew, Benjamin and Alexandra, all Lab Schools graduates, donated a \$10 million dollar gift for the Lab Schools expansion plan three years ago. Mr. Earl Shapiro died shortly after his family gave the gift in his name. In the photo Sam Frampton and Isaac Nicholas view one of several renderings of the project around school. Photo by Jeffery Li.

Basketballers just miss in Regional showdown

Jeff Li
Midway Reporter

Proud of making Regional Championships, the boys' basketball team ended its season falling just short of a victory against 51-49 to Hope College Prep 51-49 March 4 in Upper Kovler Gym.

The Maroons had entered the State Tournament as 5th seeded with a 15-9 overall and 9-3 Independent School League record.

"USUALLY, WHEN the team is struggling, we look to Mike to bring us back up," said Senior Matt Hanessian, referring to his cocaptain, Senior Mike Turner. Mike is headed to Division 1 Northwestern University.

"You want to leave your shoes out on the court so you don't regret anything. When we were down by 19, which seemed totally insurmountable, I just decided to go all out and see what happened."

The Maroons won the ISL for the third straight season, ahead of Parker and Latin, who tied for 2nd place, and Northridge 3rd.

"We lost to Northridge Prep twice," Junior Louis Van Craen said. "Twice! They were the only team to do that. They happened to do it the second time the day we found out we were outright champions."

THE 9-2 J.V. TEAM (7-6 league) also topped the ISL.

"While this season was a season of development and inconsistency, we have left the j.v. season understanding what we need to do to win games, and play basketball the right way," Sophomore Max Hornung said.

"It all starts with the little things, working hard, hustling, and playing with pride and heart to help your team win. Whether it's knocking down threes, blocking shots or dunking, everyone has an individual duty on the team."

Scores not previously reported are as follows: **Northridge**, February 5, home: Varsity lost 44-39; **Nazareth**, February 15, away: Varsity lost 74-60; **Chicago Vocational**, February 19, home: Varsity won 52-38; **Perspectives**, February 24, home: Varsity won 56-35; **Kankakee**, February 22, home: Varsity lost 49-46; **Ace Tech**, March 1, home: Varsity won 62-41.



AND ONE! Soaring high over an Ace Tech defender, Mike Turner draws a foul midway through a thundering dunk, leading the Maroons to a 62-41 Regional Semifinal win March 1 in Upper Kovler. Photo by Tim Thomas



LIKE A GAZELLE, Sophia Gatton nimbly defends the Northshore charge, carrying the Maroons to a 43-22 victory January 11 in Upper Kovler. Photo by Veronica Ramirez

Girl basketballers fight to tough end

Sonia Bourdaghs
Midway Reporter

Defeated by Queen of Peace, February 17 in an away game, varsity basketball girls finished their season with satisfaction despite a 5-16 overall record (1-6 ISL).

At the away 3A Regionals game against Queen of Peace, varsity lost 28-68. In their first Regional game, against Harper scheduled at Queen of Peace, February 14 the opponent forfeited, resulting in an automatic win for U-High.

SOPHOMORE SOPHIA GATTON, who played participated in the IHSA Three Point Shot contest, making it to Sectionals, believed that a big gap in the first quarter caused a large disadvantage at Regionals.

"Queen of Peace was a good team, but it wasn't exactly how I had hoped to end the season," said Sophia, cocaptain with Seniors Briana Watson and Rose Traubert.

"At first everyone was very anxious and, after the first quarter, Queen took a commanding lead; we knew it was going to be extremely difficult to stage a comeback. We just couldn't seem to get

the ball in the basket. Queen had really good defense, so it was very hard to get our offense going. It felt like nothing was working; things just weren't clicking."

AFTER FINISHING with a 6-5 record, j.v., including 11 freshmen, exhibits potential according to j.v. Coach Franke.

"There is a lot of potential for the team," Coach Franke said. "We accomplished what we wanted to this season. We wanted to get the numbers up especially among freshmen and wanted to give them a true j.v. experience."

"We wanted to make sure they learned how to play basketball and to win a few games so that players would stay motivated, and I think we definitely had fun."

Scores not already reported were as follows:

North Shore Country Day School, January 11, home: Varsity won 43-22; **Walter Payton**, January 11, home: J.V. won 27-26; **Clemente**, January 13, home: Varsity lost 22-55, j.v. won 35-33; **Seton**, January 21, home: Varsity lost 26-50, j.v. lost 15-36; **Morgan Park Academy**, January 26, home: Varsity lost 16-37; **Nazareth**, January 28, away: J.V. lost; **Walter Payton College Prep**, February 10, away: Varsity lost 30-51; **CICS Perspectives**, February 9, home: J.V. won 22-16.

Swimmers smash records as beloved coach bids farewell

William Chung
Associate Editor

Three records broken. Overshadowed by loss.

UPENDING U-HIGH'S swimming record board, Senior David Chung, broke the 200 free with a time of 1:51.5 minutes during the Sectional Meet at the UTC pool, February 19. At the same meet Chung and Sophomore David Tong faced off in the 100 fly. Tong edged Chung out 54.91 seconds to 55.78, both Open State times, breaking the 2003 Luke Schlusner record of 55.61.

The 200 freshmen-sophomore relay record was broken by a 1:40:23 time set by Tong, Sophomores John Lin and William Chung and Freshman Elliot Levmore January 15 against Northside. The Maroons finished 3rd at Sectionals, the highest the Maroons have ever placed.

The race between Tong and Chung proved the highlight of the meet according to David Tong.

"I KNOW THAT David Chung is a great swimmer," Tong said. "I love him. He's always helped me; he's always been there for me. After every meet we'd always talk about our swims, and talk about how to get better. I really look up to him and Michael who has also been a role model to me."

Cocaptain with Senior Michael Baroody, David Chung prepared for Sectionals the best he could.

"I feel great," Chung said. "It feels amazing to break the 200 free school record. I know that I've worked hard balancing weight lifting schoolwork and swimming at the same time, I think I broke it with the team, because they were the ones that motivated me to keep swimming."

DESPITE THE record-breaking excitement, the Maroons were saddened by the news that j.v. coach Tony Del Campo was departing after eight years.

"It was especially emotional at the banquet when he officially announced it to us," Michael said. "Coach

D.C. gave us a great speech and we gave him a bobblehead of him to remember us by. Even though he was busy, he came to the weight room with us on his own time. D.C. was like an older brother to us. The team won't be the same without him."

Mr. Del Campo explained why he could no longer coach.

"WITH A second child, I would not have been able to put the time into coaching that I would want to. I wasn't planning to leave when I heard the news that Nathaniel was coming, but after coaching this year, I knew it would not be possible to put forth the commitment that is needed to coach the team. It would have been unfair to the team and to my family."

"It was a hard decision. The team, the entire team, was a second family to me. I want the swimmers to know that even though I won't be a coach anymore, I'll always be there for them."

Gymnast makes top 10 at Regionals, but she's aiming higher for the future

William Chung
Associate Editor

Quiet and unassuming, Junior Elizabeth McNally is the last person you would expect vaulting, pirouetting on bars and prancing around.

But on February 4, she finished 10th in the Illinois High School Association Regional Gymnastics Competition at Lyons Central Township High school.

ELIZABETH CONTINUED onto the IHSA Sectional Meet February 10 at Hinsdale Central High School where she competed on the vault, scoring 8.2 out of 10.

Starting at the age of 4, Elizabeth chose gymnastics above a coterie of other sports.

"I used to do ballet and soccer," Elizabeth said. "I got tired of them and I wanted to try gymnastics. I was on a recreational team near my house, and the team coach told me that I was talented and encouraged me to join the real team."

"I LEARNED ALL the basic techniques, and eventually I went onto

Level 4, which is the first competitive level."

Elizabeth balances four-hour practices with yearbook and school.

"It's hard," Elizabeth explained. "I have to manage my time. I have practice on Mondays and Thursdays, and sometimes I just go home and go straight to bed. I wake up early in the morning around 2 and do my homework."

ALTHOUGH SHE only has one IHSA meet a year, her goals for the club season are clear.

"I usually don't do high school meets," Elizabeth said.

"But in terms of my club, which is called the Flying High Recreational Center, we have yearround meets with other club teams."

"I want to make Level 9 which is the 2nd highest level, I'm going to work really hard over the summer and try to qualify for Regionals on the club level."



Elizabeth

Honors cite four athletes

Two U-High seniors, Marissa Guiang and Robert Meyer, have been nominated for the Illinois High School Association All-State Academic Team.

Marissa is on the volleyball and track teams and Robert on the track and field team and cross country team.

TWO JUNIORS, Michelle Ng and Sydney Scarlata, have been honored as World Sport Chicago Scholars.

The organization was started when the city was bidding for the

2016 Olympic games.

Seniors Tina Umanskiy and Ben Buccheim-Jurisson won the award last year.

Winners are chosen on the basis of sports participation and commitment to Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect on the playing field, in school and in the community.

They are eligible for one of 16 renewable college scholarships worth up to \$10,000 annually supported by the MacArthur Foundation.

Runners battle blizzard, look toward spring

Jeremy Woo
Editor-in-Chief

Some days you win, some days you lose, and some days it snows.

In a season hampered by snowy weather, Indoor Track saw their first meet of the year, February 4, cancelled by the "Blizzard of 2011." To boot, the team only scheduled three meets. Despite the dearth of competition, runners remained undeterred.

"Because we only had two meets, training wasn't as much of a rush," said Marissa Guiang, cocaptain-swift with Jonathan Jou, Justin Algee, Robert Meyer, Ben Buchheim-Jurisson and Thomas Aquino. All are seniors. "We've focused on the nitty-gritty things, and it's a big advantage that we had that extra time."

"THIS YEAR is different because the turnout has been pretty small, and we don't have a lot of incoming freshmen," Marissa continued. "Thanks to our numbers, we are closer bonded since we can really push each other; in that respect a smaller team is better. However, we have to be conscious of injuries and stay healthy to keep our numbers up."

After the cancellation, runners continued to train indoors with an eye toward their next meet, March 4 at Henry Crown Fieldhouse. Boys finished 4th with a score of 63, behind St. Ignatius, Northside College Prep, and Montini. The girls put up a score of 24.5, also good for 4th behind Whitney Young, Montini, and Northside College Prep.

Sophomore Sarah Curci notched a win in the girls' 3200 meter, clocking in at 11:38.

RUNNERS FACED tough opposition in their final meet of the campaign March 11 also at Henry Crown. The Maroons lined up against eight schools, including St. Ignatius, Jones, and Independent School League rivals Latin and Parker. Results came past Midway deadline.

"We haven't gotten in much mileage yet thanks to the weather, so we aren't peaking," said Senior Ben Buchheim-Jurisson. "The next month will be crucial as we transition to outdoor. After first couple meets, things start to matter as the spring approaches. Our attitude will be indicative of how our spring plays out."



NIMBLY STRAFING his opponent's blade, Harrison MacRae, right, competes at the Great Lakes Conference Championships at Culver Academy. Photo by Nathaniel Green.

Fencers wind up with flourish of victories

Jeremy Woo
Editor-in-Chief

Swords clashed, sweat dripped, and Maroons finished on the podium.

Fencers ended their season February 5 at the Great Lakes Conference Midwest Championships at Culver Academy in Indiana. Facing 10 opposing teams, the Maroons came away with several individual victories despite fielding a small squad.

Junior Duncan Holmes placed 1st in men's sabre, Freshman Harrison MacRae 2nd men's epee, and Senior Tina Umanskiy 3rd women's foil.

"Conference Championships was my last high school tournament," Tina said. "It was a great opportunity to bond with other seniors in our conference. Sportsmanship was at its highest."

The team had competed January 29 at the Midwest High School Open, also at Culver Academy, with Duncan placing 2nd in men's sabre.

Several newcomers stepped in after six fencers graduated from the class of 2010. The team gained seasoned fencers in Harrison and Sophomore triplets Nathaniel, Willa, and Charlie Green, who all compete at the Windy City Fencing Club.

"Harrison and the Greens were huge for us," Tina said. "They have been fencing for a long time and knows all the ins and outs. Competing on the high school circuit was the only new thing for them, and wasn't a big deal at all."

Looking back at a missed golf milestone

Matt Hanessian
Sports Specialist

A month ago, I wrote that Nick Kogelman, Class of 2007, was the first U-High golfer to qualify for the state tournament. He was not.

The sun rises as State qualifiers begin to arrive at the Prairie Vista Golf Course in Bloomington. Arjuna Reddy, Class of 2000, makes his way to the driving range to warm up.

It is October 16, 1998. Arjuna is a junior at U-High. He is the first golfer in school history to qualify for the state tournament.

His coach is, as the IHSA record book states today, "To Be Announced." In fact, his coach was a teacher who knew little to nothing about golf, but volunteered

to accompany Arjuna to Bloomington because Arjuna needed a "coach."

Arjuna finishes warming up and evacuates the range. He checks his watch, it is almost his tee time, 10:27 a.m. He goes to the putting green to test the speed of his putts, then heads to the first tee.

During the first round, Arjuna shoots an 85. He retreats to his hotel room, recovers, and begins to prepare himself to improve his score during the second round of the tournament.

The next day, Arjuna shoots an 83 for his second round, another performance that was not up to par with his expectations. However, Arjuna Reddy has made history.

Not only was Arjuna the first U-High golfer to qualify for state, but his success was largely responsible for the formation of the U-High golf team years later.

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The flowers are growing, the birds are chirping, the students are groaning. Spring is coming and Anoop Herur-Raman thinks it may be time for a new bike... or just a repair.



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GETTING READY to speed away, Anoop gets new tires on his bike he bought at Wheels & Things with the help of owner Richard Padnos, U-High Class of 1957.