



**JUST AWAKENED** by an angry Fire Eater (Jolisha Johnson, left) Gepetto (Loren Sosnick, yawns as he walks out of his small house in a Tuscan Village in the Spring Production of “Pinocchio.” Fire Eater, who uses Gepetto’s puppets in her theater productions, rages as the puppets watch in terror. The photo was taken before costumes and sets were completed. In its third appearance at the Rites of May, “Pinocchio” returns in a new production, intended for children of all ages. *Photo by Sarah Husain.*

# Miracles, mirth mix in Spring play

**Bright production of ‘Pinocchio’ preserves some darkness, too**

Nick Phalen  
Associate editor

**L**eaning over his workbench in his messy house, an old man carefully crafts a puppet from a block of wood in 19th century in a small Italian village.

His creation complete, the craftsman, Gepetto, places his new puppet on the fireplace mantle. “DON’T KNOCK me so,” he hears an angry voice shout. Shocked, Gepetto jumps back, unable to determine from where the voice has come. Unknown to Gepetto, he has created Pinocchio, the legendary puppet who longs to be a real boy.

So begins the Spring Production, “Pinocchio.” The classic fairytale will be performed, as in more than four decades of Rites of May plays, on a multilevel stage in Blaine Courtyard, 8 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Tickets, \$10, are available in Blaine Lobby for \$10.

“Pinocchio” was previously presented, to great acclaim, in 1994 and 2004, in other productions.

Game, food and activity booths will headline the Rites of May, Thursday and Friday 5-7:30 p.m. in Blaine Courtyard, preceding the production. Begun in 1969 as a Shakespearean Faire, Rites of May has taken place every year since except one (that year the play did go on). Admission to the courtyard is free; tickets will be on sale for food and game booths.

COMPLETE WITH a moonwalk, cotton candy, popcorn and snow cones in Kenwood Mall, carnival-style entertainment will highlight the International Festival, Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., sponsored by parents and aimed mainly at Lower and Middle School students.

Written by Carlo Collodi in Florence, Italy, “The Adventures of Pinocchio” appeared as a series of magazine articles between 1881 and 1883. The story inspired stage productions, and eventually films, around the world.

It achieved a new high of prominence in 1940 when Walt Disney Studios issued a full-length animated film named in 2008 by the American Film Institute as one of the Top Ten American Animated Films in 2008.

THE FILM spotlighted the character Jiminy Cricket, a minor figure in the original articles, and won an Oscar for Best Original Score and Best Original Song, “When You Wish Upon a Star.”

The new Rites of May production adaptation emphasizes character development, said Drama Teacher Luicija Ambrosini, director.

“This is an adaptation that I have pieced together over the years and that we have performed many times before,” Ms. Ambrosini said.

“PINOCCHIO” IS a classic story that appeals to everyone because it is essentially about a puppet pursuing his dream to become real. But the real strength of this adaptation is that it really focuses on the trials that Pinocchio goes through to get to that point, and that is what the production spotlights. Pinocchio goes through a lot of character development, making the story compelling and realistic, while still being a fairytale.

“I think that this is the aspect of the play that the audience will really enjoy because they can relate to it, but we will still put emphasis on the fun side of the play as well.

“The costumes actors will wear are very organic and colorful and emphasize the characters well. Narration has also been a big focus for this production. It is something that really can move the play along or slow it down and we’ve worked hard to make sure it livens the play up.”

LIGHT, PLAYFUL colors will play a big role in the production, according to Technical Director Allen Ambrosini.

“When we did this last time the stage was kind of painted in a dark blue color,” Mr. Ambrosini said. “The story really does have a dark undertone, and I think that will come out in this production, but in a way that audience members may not expect.

“This time, the stage will be painted in bright, splashy colors and I think that should make a big difference in the show and the experience for the audience.”

CLAD IN PURPLES, blues and yellows, actors will wear costumes designed by Costume Mistress Sydney Fishman, junior.



**AFTER ENJOYING** a year in Playland, a place where young boys can have fun but bad things happen, Pinnocchio (Wilson Sinclair) and his friend, Candlewick (Georgie Plys-Garzotto) attempt to hide their bad things. *Photo by Sarah Husain.*

“Part of what is so interesting about the costumes for this show is that they are so adaptable,” Sydney said. “A lot of people are playing many different roles so a lot of the costumes involve adding things to people’s attire. At the same time, the costumes emphasize the abstract nature of the play.

“For example, there are fish walking around on stage for parts of the show, and their costumes have to reflect their environment as well as their characters. So, the fish are all blue.”

DANCES WILL ALSO be part of the production, choreographed by Freshman Carolyn Voth.

Though portraying a children’s character, Senior Wilson Sinclair, hopes to emphasize Pinocchio’s transition throughout the story.

“When the play starts out, I really think that Pinocchio is essentially a blank slate,” Wilson said. “That’s exciting, because the play is a children’s story, but I am able to see Pinocchio make a lot of decisions. When he comes to a crossing, he is either making himself look better or impressing his father, and that doesn’t always go well. But he still grows, and obviously he wants to go through a transition into a real boy. Making that transition come through, though, is complicated.”

ICE CREAM, HOT DOGS, and hamburgers, at booths sponsored by High School student groups, will as usual be sold at Thursday and Friday’s Rites of May according to Coordinator Carla Young, Nursery and Kindergarten principal.

“Most of the same clubs have volunteered to sell food as in past years,” Ms. Young said.

“Food and game booths will be there, with many opportunities to support student groups as well as participate in games geared towards younger students.”

CHINA, GREECE, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Russia will be represented in booths in Upper Kovler Gym as part of the International Festival, according to Coordinator Fred Kern, Lower School parent. Activities offered will range from origami to silk fan-making.

Martial artists, acrobats, Indian dancers, and magicians will perform throughout the day in Upper Kovler and international cuisine from Chicago food specialists will be offered in the popular Global Café in Lower Kovler.

A Scholastic Book Fair be conducted in Belfield 141 Thursday and Friday 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Play crew heads not already mentioned are as follows:

Lights: Isaac Nicholas, Jeremy Archer, Joe Martin; sound: Jamell Brown and Jeff Brehm; box office: Jolisha Johnson.

Masters and mistresses not already mentioned are as follows:

House: Jonathan Worcester; publicity: Maddie Lindsey; furniture and props: Giorgi Plys-Garzotto, shop: McTavish McArdle.

**“It is essentially about a puppet pursuing his dream to become real.”**

—Drama Teacher Luicija Ambrosini, director



# New York Times writer to keynote Commencement for Class of 2011

MIDWAY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF meets Midway editors-in-chief as Ms. Monica Davey, Commencement speaker, chats with, from left, Rafi Khan, Rachel Sylora, Jeremy Woo, Nick Chaskin and Sydney Scarlata. Photo by Taylor Crowl.

## Monica Davey, '81, edited Midway, as did her sister; dad is a Monilaw winner

Akila Raoul  
Associate editor

Once Midway editor-in-chief, now National Correspondent in the Midwest for the New York Times, U-High graduate Monica Davey, class of 1982, will return to address the Class of 2011 at Commencement, 2:30 p.m., Thursday, June 10 at Rockefeller Chapel, 5850 South Woodlawn Avenue.

Growing up in Hyde Park, Ms. Davey is the sister of another Midway editor-in-chief, Kate Davey, Class of 1981. And her father John Davey was the Monilaw sports award winner in 1956.

**MS. DAVEY CREDITS** much of her success as a journalist to the experience she received on the staff of the Midway.

"I was really excited when I was asked to speak at graduation," Ms. Davey said in a phone interview prior to her visiting the Journalism Office for a photo. "It is a huge honor and it is special to me. I am very flattered to have been asked.

"Some of my fondest memories were at U-High," Ms. Davey said. "I remember hanging out in the Journalism Office and staying after school for deadlines. It is really the teachers who make the place special. It's hard to see that now because you're experiencing it but looking back I can see the lengths the teachers such as Wayne Brasler and Darlene McCampbell went through.

**"U-HIGH WAS** the only place where I actually took a course in journalism and that mattered a lot. My decision to become a journalist was not one that I knew instantly. I just knew that it was a thing that I loved doing.

"I studied linguistics and computer science in college and when I graduated I realized that journalism was something I loved and wanted to go back to. I wouldn't have gone into journalism had it not been for the Midway."

Ms. Davey received her B.A. in Linguistics at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, where she wrote for the student newspaper the Daily Herald. She then went on to pursue a career in journalism and worked for City News Bureau of Chicago from 1986 to 1988, the Roanoke (Virginia) Times and World-News from 1988 to 1992, the St. Petersburg Times from 1992 to 1998 and the

Chicago Tribune from 1998 to 2003. She has since then worked for the New York Times.

**"ONE OF THE** reasons I love being a journalist is that it's different every-day," Ms. Davey said. "I have an excuse to find out what others think and everyday is something really interesting and exciting.

"I've also come to learn that a lot of the times, the most interesting stories are the ones about lesser known people because they usually end up having really interesting stories that are rarely told."

"We thought Ms. Davey would be a good choice because she has been successful in bringing her skills from Lab into her career as a journalist," said Senior Class President Matt Soble.

**"I LOVED** growing up in Hyde Park," Ms. Davey said. "My grandparents lived in Hyde Park and my dad grew up here where he graduated from U-High so I feel a sense of connection being in Hyde Park.

"I felt a push at the end of high school to go to college somewhere else. But I learned that it takes time going away to see that not everywhere is as special and diverse as Hyde Park."

Both she and her sister are now Lab Schools parents. **MARCHING TO** Sir Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" played by University Organist Thomas Weisflog on the Rockefeller organ, 120 graduation candidates will lead a grand processional in maroon mortar boards and gowns. In robes with color signifying their alma mater and degrees, Lab Schools Board members, faculty members and administrators will follow.

Presenting diplomas to an expected 120 graduates, College Counselors Melissa Warehall and Patty Kovacs will announce each name as Lab Schools Director David Magill, Principal Matt Horvat and Lab Schools Board Chairperson John Rogers greet each recipient.

Also speaking at Commencement will be Matt, as



class president, and Senior Joe Philipson, whose speech was chosen by a Graduation Committee of the senior class and Student Council officers.

**IN MUSICAL INTERLUDES**, Senior Thomas Aquino will play an original guitar composition and Seniors Henry Harboe, Yael Litwin, Shacara Leadbetter and Sam Frampton along with guests will perform "I Wish" by Stevie Wonder.

A reception for graduates and their families will follow the ceremony at the Quadrangle Club, 1155 East 55th Street. The day before the ceremony, a Senior Luncheon will take place 11 a.m. in Ida Noyes Cloisters Hall preceding graduation rehearsal.

Winding up the school year, the annual Labstock festival will take place after school Friday, June 3, in Kenwood Mall and the annual awards assembly will take place from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Monday, June 6 at International House. A trip to Six Flags in Gurnee is being planned for Wednesday, June 8.

Alumni Weekend June 2-5, which will include awards presentations and other special events and a Saturday afternoon jazz brunch. A faculty reception honoring retiring teachers will take place Tuesday, May 31.

# Something's pretty fishy about this year's Prom!

Lindsey Aronson  
Midway reporter

Green sea turtles, moray eels, parrotfish, and sharks in a 90-gallon fish tank centered in a famous rotunda gaze on Promgoers dining and dancing at Senior Prom, 7 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, May 28 at the John G. Shedd Aquarium, 1200 South Lake Shore Drive.

Hor d'oeuvres including quiche tarlets, mini pizza tarts, crab rangoon, chili con queso trumpets and soft drinks served on the aquarium's North Terrace will be served until 8 p.m.. Promgoers will then be escorted upstairs to the Caribbean Reef rotunda for dinner. About 175 seniors and their guests are expected.

"We heard about the success of the Prom held at the aquarium in 2001," said Sasha Karapetrova, Prom Committee president. "We visited a few other loca-

tions before choosing the aquarium. The Shedd offers such a lively atmosphere because of the fish.

"We want to keep the decorations simple so we don't detract from the natural atmosphere of the aquarium. Instead we want to keep the focus on the exhibits and how fortunate we are to have Prom at the Shedd."

Founded in 1924, the world-famous Aquarium houses among 40-plus species Beluga Whales, Mangrove Whiptail Rays, Moon Jellies, Sea Otters, and Green Moray Eels.

Closing to the public at 6 p.m., seven of the aquarium's eight exhibits will be open to U-Highers including "Amazon Rising," featuring anacondas, piranhas, spiders, rays, and crocodiles; "Jellies," the newest exhibit; and "Wild Reef," offering a diver's-eye view of a marine metropolis of sharks, eels, and fish. A private dolphin show will also be offered.

Dinner featuring Italian

cuisine will begin at 8 p.m.

"We're starting with a field green salad and assorted bread baskets on each table," Sasha said. "That will be followed by Chicken Parmesan, with vegetables and potatoes.

"Our vegetarian option is cheese ravioli with tomato coulis and vegetables.

"Dessert will be dark chocolate mousse inside a chocolate shell, along with coffee and tea.

Dancing will follow in the Shedd's main foyer at 9 p.m., with music provided by University of Chicago student D.J. Yoni Einhorn.

"Yoni was recommended to us by the chair of the major activities board of the U. of C.," said Connie He, Prom Committee member. "He was also featured on a prominent music blog for a mix he made of Chris Brown, Avicii, and Daft Punk."

Climaxing the Prom, the king and queen will be announced at end of the evening.

## Eleven get Booth internships

Eleven U-Highers from the junior and sophomore classes have been selected for Booth internships at the U. of C.'s Booth School of Business.

They will apply for a six-week paid internship this summer in areas of business and economics to work on research or business projects with professors from Booth, the Harris School of Public Policy, the Law School and the Economics Department along with

private businesses.

History Teacher Chris Janus is serving as adviser to students in the program.

Chosen from 30 candidates, the participating students are Lucy Cheng, William Chung, Rosie Cuneo Grant, Steven Glick, Duncan Holmes, Maxine Nesbitt, Jack Olson, Emma Polson, JR Reed, Hannah Resnick and Shannon Vavra.

## One more to go...

The much-anticipated list of where seniors are headed for college will appear in an extra edition of the Midway Tuesday morning, June 7. Copies will be available in the library, school offices, cafeteria and the Journalism Office, Judd 14.

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# Pals salute friendship with May Project

Friendship should last longer than high school. So believe Maya Fishbach and Amanda Yuan, who will attend different colleges. To memorialize their friendship, the seniors are making a documentary featuring their companionship and friendships with others for May Project.

MAYA AND AMANDA are among 116 seniors (of 120 in the class) undertaking May Projects.

Begun by the Class of 1969 to energize what traditionally had been a time of senior slump, May Project offers seniors with the opportunity to pursue individual study projects, explore career interests and perform community service.

Each senior was responsible for acquiring a faculty adviser and subsequently submitted a to a faculty evaluation committee who evaluated proposals based on clarity, detail, and achievability.

THE PROGRAM this year was coordinated by Ms. Becky Chmielewski, a Lower School substitute teacher with prior experience in the position.

For Maya and Amanda doing a Project together seemed natural.

“We’ve been friends for a long time, since the end of freshman year,” Maya said. “We’ve done a lot of things special to us, like keeping a personal penny collection and walking to school. For the documentary, we wanted to see what other friends do with each other that’s special.”

“FIRST, WE DID some research to figure out how to use the microphone and the video cameras, then we watched a couple documentaries to learn how to put them together.

“We tried to do a lot of interviewing at the school or around Hyde Park. We are using iMovie to put the documentary together.”

By senior, May Projects are as follows, with the list subject to addition, subtraction or change:

**Justin Algee**, hip-hop dancing; **Sapana Anand**, writing a collection of short stories about her father; **Tyler Anderson**, photographing wildlife; **Thomas Aquino**, intensive guitar practice for performance; **Alex Barber**, making an album and D.J.ing a radio show; **Michael Baroody**, playing guitar and making film; **Henry Bergman**, reconnecting with families through cooking; **Jeff Brehm**, photography in Chicago; **Daniel Brewer**, making art; **Fraser Brown**, writing three chapters of a novel, **Jamell Brown-Smith**, shadowing a surgeon.

**Ben Buchheim-Jurisson**, playing piano and learning to sing; **John Burns**, finding the perfect golf swing; **Ariane Carter**, create a clay animation stop motion film; **Bianca Carter**, taking martial arts; **Maggie Carton**, creating a Cook Book; **Yi Chang**, graduation recital; **Nick Chaskin**, married to baking; **John Chen**, shadowing a radiologist.

**Hannah Constantin**, studying Maqamat, a form of Arabic musical style; **Sean Cusack**, internship at Ariel Investments; **Charles Du**, intensive preparation for the International Biology Olympiad; **Julian DuBuclet**, shadowing surgeons; **Emily Ehrmann**, Italian cooking and culinary discoveries; **Layla Ehsan**, assisting in children’s art classes; **Brienne Ellis**, completing a season of Project Runway; **Maya Fishbach**, making a documentary and writing a screenplay; **Wolfgang Foulkes**, creating a multimedia composition; **Rebecca Fox**, Hand drawn short animation; **Sam Frampton**, Writing an Avant-Garde Big Band composition.

**Sarah Freedman**, cultural investigation of Paris; **Sarah Garvey**, writing a novel; **Karlin Gattton**, practicing yoga; **Marissa Guiang**, cultural exploration through photography in Scandinavia; **Angali Gundeti**, learning to cook; **Erik Gustafson**, building a Sailplane; **Matthew Hanessian**, finding the perfect golf swing.

**Henry Harboe**, advanced piano training and compositional studies; **Amir Hay**, break dancing, yoga, and being a vegan; **Connie He**, film and photography around Chicago; **Robert Heilbrunn**, shadowing a doctor; **Grant Hensel**, internship at Ariel Investments; **Alap Herur-Raman**, absorbing martial wisdom learning Kung Fu; **Anna Hopkins**, researching artifacts for an exhibit; **Aukuso Iafeta**, full emersion into the Spanish speaking language.

**Malvika Jolly**, collecting stories of passersby; **Jonathon Jou**, implications of traditional Chinese medicine in wound healing;

**Aleksandra Karapetrova**, hiking in Chicago; **Rafi Khan**, programming in parallel; **Berislav Kristo**, learning how to use virtual D.J.; **Charlotte Lastra**, Can-o-Saurus Rex; **Hadley Leasman**, shadowing a violin teacher; **Shacara Leabetter**, Habitats for Humanity; **Nathaniel Levmore**, exploring veganism.

**Yael Litwin**, recording an album of original music; **Sebastian Lopez**, making a documentary about the track team; **Chinami Luppescu**, making own Cookbook; **Crystal Maciel**, Habitat for Humanity; **Daniel Martinez**, instrumental album; **Jonathan Matthews**, writing and producing a music C.D.; **Zoe McDaniel**, work out regimen and recipe book; **Robert Meyer**, re-learning to play the piano; **Liam Mireles**, instructing camps for children across the city and distributing flyers and other promotional materials to different schools and youth organizations.

**Austin Morris**, practicing yoga and learning to break dance; **Nick Msall**, curating a student art show; **Sam Neal**, making a documentary about the U-High track team; **Alex Nesbitt**, reconnecting with families through cooking; **Isaac Nicholas**, recording an album of original music; **Alexander Nirenberg**, writing a book; **Amy Northrop**, cooking and critiquing cupcakes; **Alice O’Keefe**, making art for an art show; **Ana Ovtcharova**, learning to play guitar.

**Joe Philipson**, shadowing attorneys; **Odette Popko**, work with an equine vet; **Jonathon Portugal**, creating a video game; **Ben Postone**, comparing a novel in German, Hebrew and English; **Delia Privitera**, shadowing a tour guide in Paris; **Naintara Rajan**, exploring the arts in Chicago; **Veronica Ramirez**, creating own tea blend; **Garvin Ringquist**, creating a picture book; **Emily Roberts**, interning at IntraHealth International in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and working in an IntraHealth Office in Nairobi, Kenya; **Anna Rosenzweig**, writing a knitting book; **Mollie Rotmensch**, learning folk guitar; **Joel Sachnoff**, illustrating Chicago diversity through the L train system.

**Lia Sanfelippo**, French immersion in Chicago; **Shane Selig**, shadowing two



JAMMING on his rectangular guitar, Senior Isaac Nicholas practices compositions he wrote for his May Project. All but four seniors did Projects this year. Photo by Sarah Husain

doctors; **Michael Shapiro**, volunteering at Habitat for Humanity; **Wilson Sinclair**, taking voice lessons; **Amrita Singh**, the sound of movies;

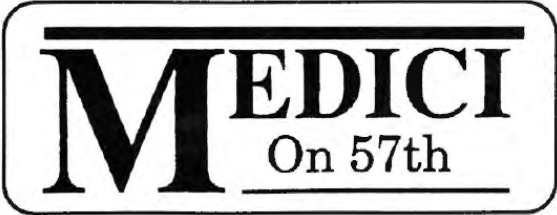
**Anisha Sisodia**, photo essay based on visit to India; **Matthew Soble**, wooden sign making; **Brianna Solola**, shadowing her mother who works as a physician assistant in Obstetrics and Gynecology; **Michael Sullivan**, volunteering at a baseball academy; **Rachel Sylora**, learning to hip hop dance and research the roots of hip hop; **Timothy Thomas III**, collecting interviews around Chicago for a book.

**Elliot Tom**, researching if Lincoln was a racist; **John Tomlinson**, studying what it takes to become a professional cyclist; **James Torpy**, work with a paleontologist at the University of Chicago; **Rose Traubert**, scuba, crew and horses; **Joe Turner**, high speed photography; **Michael Turner**, reconnecting with families through cooking; **Tina Umanskiy**, prepare for college fencing.

**Jay Updahyay**, interning at Merill Lynch; **Danielle Verdirame**, gyrotonics; **Miki Verma**, doodleage; **Briana Watson**, working in McDonald’s restaurant; **Jeremy Woo**, working for BIG Baseball Academy; **Jonathan Worcester**, shadowing a graphic designer; **Stephanie Xiao**, reading and painting; **Claudia Yang**, interning at Morningstar Financial; **Amanda Yuan**, making a documentary and writing a screenplay; **Peter Zhang**, building a road bike; **Jianan Zhou**, learning how to trade stocks.



Freshmen Portia William, Alexandra Cohen and Miranda Garfinkle enter the Medici hungry for tasty dining.



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## Lonely?

If you’re bored over summer break, why not stop by Medici and sit on the patio with your friends. Get lunch, dinner and maybe even a shake.



Alex and Portia choose Mexicano Shakes with their waitress Yazzie assured of prompt service.

Photos by Jeffery Li





## Remembering the Holocaust

“AS I RAN away from the truck, I suddenly tripped and fell into a trench. I got out and started to run, expecting that I’d soon get shot down by the Nazi officer.”

Sitting at the foot of the stage at Mandel Hall during the Holocaust Assembly April 27, Guest Speaker Samuel R. Harris, former Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center president, recounted his experiences as a boy in Poland during the Holocaust.

The program is a project of the Jewish Students’ Association.

Interspersed with numerous speakers representing a range of school organizations, musical presentations included Senior Marissa Guaing and Sophomores John Lin and Catherine Zhou, Death Cab For Cutie’s “I Will Follow You Into the Dark;” Bel Canto; Frank Ticheli’s “Earth Song,” and the University High School Band, Jack Stamp’s four-part piece “Scenes from Terezin.”

Black Students’ Association members recited Michael R. Burch’s poem “Neglect.”

Throughout the assembly, seven students lit a candle each to remember seven groups affected by the Holocaust: Children, mothers, victims, teachers, resistance fighters, rescuers, and those who were not Jews. *Photo by Anisha Sisodia.*

## New gov’t presidents outline priorities

Annette Cochran  
Midway reporter

Hoping to achieve integration of U-High’s math and writing tutoring services into a central location, new Student Council President Andrew Palmer, junior, also plans to require applications to become a Big Buddy and implement a Regenstein book drop box near the High School library.

While many students use U. of C.’s Regenstein Library as a resource for research projects, Andrew says he’s seen that most students aren’t proactive at returning books.

“WE HOPE to have a Regenstein drop box within the school starting Spring Quarter,” Andrew said. “Students will be able to return their checked out books from Regenstein to our library, then Student Council will return them every Friday.”

“We also hope to change the Big Buddy program. Currently, freshmen rarely contact their Big Buddies after the introductory luncheon.

“Next year, seniors will have to apply for a Big Buddy position, ensuring their qualifications, and then structure time with their students all year.

ANDREW ALSO says he has met with the new assistant principal, Ms. Asra Ahmed, to discuss the possibility of integrating math and writing tutoring services into one location so they are more accessible for students.

Cultural Union President Tom Healy said he hopes to build on the success of this year’s first Spring Fling dance.

“I FEEL THE DANCE was successful, especially because of the Hawaiian theme,” Tom said. “We scheduled the dance at a time when most seniors were visiting colleges so there wasn’t a great turnout from that grade, but we can definitely build on this year.

“We are currently debating changing the current I-House setting for dances, but we’ll definitely reach out for student opinion on that front. We also are looking into a new D.J. for Homecoming next year.”

Other elected officers are as follows:

**STUDENT COUNCIL—Vice president:** JR Reed; **treasurer:** Nathan Eckstein; **secretary:** Tomi Johnson.

**CULTURAL UNION—Vice president:** Josh Koenig.

**NEXT YEAR’S SENIORS—President:** Ary Hansen; **vice presidents:** Elizabeth Gelman and Charlie Rafkin; **Cultural Union representatives:** Alex Chang, Daniel Elmer.

**NEXT YEAR’S JUNIORS—President:** Steven Glick; **vice president:** Amol Gundetti; **Cultural Union representatives:** Jessica Gimpel, Maya Hansen.

**NEXT YEAR’S SOPHOMORES—President:** Alex Cohen; **vice president:** Phil Healy; **Cultural Union representatives:** Tiffany Davis, Sabrina Holland.

# On schedule?

*With new daily class period plan going up to bat, many of the players express concern it*

Sydney Scarlata  
Editor in Chief

Moving forward?

After receiving their preliminary class lists for next year, some faculty members remain concerned with the new schedule which is to be implemented next fall.

When she found that 18 students signed up for her Holocaust elective next fall but only eight were able to fit it into their schedules, History Teacher Susan Shapiro said she was shocked.

“THIS HAS NEVER happened before,” Mrs. Shapiro said. “This was a good year because so many kids signed up. I know, in the end, some students will rearrange their schedules in the fall because they honestly want to take my class, and it is a priority for them

“I’ve had eight kids before and we just went with the flow, but the class size did change the dynamic of the class. The breadth of opinion just wasn’t there. The class was missing the balance of ideas that a class with more students has.”

In general, Mrs. Shapiro still has other concerns about the schedule.

“I QUESTION THE WISDOM of lengthy periods,” she said. “Extra time in class does not necessarily equate with real learning. There is a difference between instruction and reflection and I’m worried that we lose time that students would be using to think about the material they are learning and why it is important.

“In the current schedule, even if students have full schedules, they have some time to reflect. Free periods are essential to learning how to reflect. They are also essential to learning how to use time wisely. This is a skill.

“I definitely won’t pack a ton of material into the lengthy periods,” Ms. Shapiro added. “I will try a variety of things. Some will work, some will fail. I just want to make sure that my students can walk out of class and take full ownership of the material.”

Her main teaching goals, she added, will remain the same.

“THE FACT OF the matter is, there’s nothing anyone can do,” Ms. Shapiro said. “There is nothing to be gained from resisting. The new schedule is happening next year and I have to do my best to adapt.”

Ready for next year, Computer Science Teacher Baker Franke found an increase in his class list.

“Usually 20 to 24 people sign up for the A.P. Computer Science course and only 10 to 12 are able to fit it in,” Mr. Franke said. “This year, though, there were enough students to make two classes. Though overall I think that the new schedule did not affect my class registration.

“I THINK STUDENTS are afraid of the longer period because they think teachers will just stand up and lecture for the entire period. I’m going to use the longer periods to do things that I wouldn’t otherwise be able to do, like leave the school. We can do so much more, more efficiently.

“Students can use the extra time to start on their homework because Computer Science is really a lab science in that it takes a lot to set up and take down everything, so homework might take longer at home than during class.”

Involved in the technical aspects of the new schedule, Mr. Franke is looking to work out a few kinks in the program.

“A BIG ISSUE with the registration program is how to fit in two sciences with lab periods,” Mr. Franke said. “The program is designed to try and schedule the student in as many classes as possible and since science labs take up a whole other class period, the program is going to schedule two classes in, over the second science class. What needs to

“At the moment, there is an imbalance of ‘helped’ and ‘hurt’ courses, and part of my job is to make sure this disparity doesn’t exist, no matter what the course.”

—Mr. Brent LaRowe, registrar

## Where it all stands

■ The first step of registration has been completed but there are many more steps that still need to be taken including hand-scheduling some students.

■ The computer program used to create student schedules was changed to place core courses in higher priority over electives.

■ This year, students were more conservative in their class registration. In general, U-Highers signed up for fewer electives.

■ Last year, 95 percent of U-Highers got their course selections. This year 93 percent of students got their course selections.

be created is a program where students can prioritize their classes.”

On the whole, the new schedule hasn’t finished evolving Mr. Franke feels.

“The new schedule is sort of like the ongoing health care debate,” Mr. Franke said. “Because everyone is so familiar with the current system, people much more acutely perceive what’s missing in the new schedule.

“WHAT’S MORE DIFFICULT to perceive are the potential benefits of the new schedule. There is no way for us right now to ‘feel’ what might be gained. And no one is going to be upset about not gaining something they didn’t even know might be a gain.

“To be honest, I don’t think the schedule is done changing. I mean look at our current schedule; it has 40 years behind it. I think a big problem the students have with the new schedule is they feel it is limiting their opportunity, which is a powerful feeling.

“An idea I have is to re-look at the time allotted to each class. Why should we schedule everything the same way? Different disciplines require more time and we have to look at how much time per week each subject needs.

“WHY SHOULD EVERY course be taught for the same amount of time every week? Answering this question would require some rethinking about curriculum and requirements that quite frankly everyone is too exhausted to do right now. But if you’re looking for ways to modify the new schedule, especially in respect to increasing opportunities for students to take more classes, that’s a place you might start.”

After finishing the initial scheduling process, Registrar Brent LaRowe found the schedule did not affect class registration dramatically.

“There were a few things I noticed this year,” Mr. LaRowe said. “For one thing, more students were more conservative with their course selection. They seemed to sign up for core courses and not as many electives. Typically we see students requesting everything they might like to take, including a plethora of electives.

“THIS YEAR, THE DECLINE was there, but it was modest. The act of getting students into classes was very successful this year. Last year we had a 95 percent success rate and this year it was around 93 percent. I was actually very surprised to see such success this year.

“I changed to computer program to be a bit more conservative and schedule the core courses in first and I think that with the fact that students were more conservative resulted in a very high success rate.

“There are many more pieces of the puzzle that we need to sort out. At this point the computer has done all the work, so I will go back in and hand schedule some students if I think they can fit more classes into their schedule. This will make up for the low numbers in some classes, like some elective courses.

“AT THE MOMENT, there is an imbalance of ‘helped’ and ‘hurt’ courses, and part of my job is to make sure this disparity doesn’t exist, no matter what the course.

“This year, electives are low after the computer scheduling. The last two years, World Language courses were low after the computer scheduling. Every year, it’s a little different.”



# A U-High legend with unique qualities

## Science master Daniel West retires leaving a legacy of excellence, caring

Duncan Weinstein  
Midway reporter

Ambling into sun-drenched U-High 213, a science lab with a wooden podium in front and desks arranged in a “V” and fish in large tank, a tall man in a button-down shirt and black dress pants arrives, grade book in hand.

As students, mostly freshmen, enter the grey-haired man strokes his trademark beard. Cracking jokes in response to students’ questions in his smooth, deep voice, Science Teacher Daniel West prepares Introductory Biology students for a test on evolution.

**TEACHING** 40 years, 33 here, Mr. West heard of U-High from a friend and left Proviso East High School in west suburban Maywood because he couldn’t teach how he wanted to.

Growing up in rural California, Mr. West, and his wife of 37 years, Judy, sent both their children, Jeremy and Ben, to the Middle School. Jeremy graduated from U-High in the Class of 1999; Ben opted to attend Whitney Young High School, Class of 2003.

For college, Mr. West chose Wheaton, a prominent Christian liberal arts college in the Chicago west suburb, for its science department, distance from home and religious emphasis. He majored in zoology because a biology degree was not offered.

He says his years as Wheaton helped integrate Christianity in his life, particularly through the power of music and meeting people of faith he respected.

**AFTER SERVING** in the U.S. Army in Germany from 1968 to 1971, Mr. West returned to his friends in the Chicago area a pacifist.

“What was happening to our guys, not to mention the Vietnamese, was so terrible nothing we gained there could justify it,” he explained.

Mr. West’s passion for ethics has been fully evident during his years at U-High.

**WRITING TWO LETTERS** to the Midway. The first came in 1992, advocating abstinence after AIDS activist Michael Callen spoke at an assembly in 1992.

The second came this year because he believed that

performing the Beatles’ song “Imagine” at this year’s Martin Luther King Jr. assembly dishonored Dr. King because of its lyrics indicating the world would be better off without religion.

Mr. West has always expressed strong opinions. Science Department chairperson from 1998 to 2002, Mr. West has taught mostly Introductory Biology, though also Chemistry C and AP Biology.

“**MY MOST** vivid memories were not the students to whom biology came naturally, but those who became more capable,” Mr. West said. “To me, that showed a lot of character as opposed to skill. Brilliance is impressive, but I’m more impressed by persistence and improvement.

“To me, the major goal in life is to become more capable than yesterday. To grow and be able to do things you couldn’t do before. I’m impressed and delighted when students do that.”

Hoping to relax more, Mr. West wants to spend more time with his wife in their small Victorian house in west suburban Oak Park, among other plans.

“**TD LIKE TO** do some more things with my church, LaSalle Street Church. It’s a nondenominational Protestant church near North Side with a lot of community programs. I’m already a member of the Elder Board, which oversees things, but we haven’t decided about new projects for me to take on.”

Among the initiatives in which the Wests have worked are the Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic; a senior center; and a school, Cornerstone Academy, “for kids who have had little success in public schools.”

Admiring Mr. West as a colleague, Science Teacher Daniel McDonald believes he can’t be replaced.

“If there’s anything Mr. West should be remembered as, it’s as a student advocate,” Mr. McDonald said. “So often, it seems like teachers and students are adversaries, but Mr. West has always been on the side of the students, inside



**LECTURING STUDENTS** in the awkward sexual reproduction unit, Daniel West follows the topics on his syllabus that he distributes to students every unit. Creating tests that strictly follow it, Mr. West gives notice in advance what will be on his tests. *Photo by Jeff Li.*

and outside the classroom. At faculty meetings he’s always negotiating on behalf of the students. His primary concern is that students do well.”

**AMONG THE MANY** U-Highers who admires Mr. West, Junior Jeremy Archer, cites his teaching methods.

“He teaches people to fail so they can succeed,” Jeremy said. “Not everyone gets an A, and he makes sure the A students have to work just as hard as everyone else. He appeals to many learning styles. The tests are part multiple choice, part essay. He gives you an objectives sheet and you have to know the material.”

Also retiring, Middle School Teacher Susan Leshner, fondly remembered by many U-Highers, has taught 1st through 5th grade for 43 years at the Lab Schools.

“**I STARTED IN** the Lower School and have been able to do lots of exciting things since,” Ms. Leshner said. “We’ve always had a lot of freedom to teach what we’re passionate about. After I retire, I hope to tutor kids and spend a lot more time traveling.”

The retirees will be honored at a year-end faculty reception Tuesday, May 31.

## Summer plans include going abroad, working

Roaming the globe, U-Highers will travel abroad this summer both with school-sponsored trips and on their own. For others, summer will mean still being at school, taking classes, working at or going to camps, or working in the summer Adventure Kids program.

World Languages teachers are offering four trips. The destinations, dates and the teachers are Beijing, Xi’an and Luoyang, China, June 19-July 10, Ms. Xinglu Liang; Paris and La Rochelle, France, June 13-26, Ms. Vicki Schneider; Stuttgart, Germany, June 30-July 23, Ms. Annette Steinbarth; and Gijon, Spain, June 10-25, Ms. Laura Salas-Damar.

**AMONG THE 12 U-HIGHERS** going on the Spanish trip, which will include staying with a family and attending school, Sophomore Maya Hansen said, “The exchange will let us see what the Spanish culture is like, including trying the Mediterranean food and seeing famous architecture like the Sagrada Família.”

A visit to Madrid will be included.

Staying Stateside, many U-Highers will be attending summer school.

**FRESHMAN SAM ADAMS** plans will take a six-week finance course at Georgetown University, in Washington D.C., and earn three college credits.

“Finance attracts me since it’s different than what my family does, being doctors,” Sam said. “My dad did it when he was in high school so he recommended it.

“In the class, we’ll go through lectures some days, and hands on experiences others. For the hands-on experience, the teacher will give each student a simulation of a company and you have to manage it for a period of time.

“Along with classes, we’ll be having

field trips to big banks to talk to the executives there.”

**MANY FACULTY MEMBERS** plan travel, although some first will be teaching Summer School.

After teaching a Middle School summer class, History Teacher Paul Horton plans on traveling and writing.

“In August I’ll be going to Durango, Colorado for the beautiful scenery and easy access to more remote areas,” Mr. Horton said. “I plan on hiking and hanging out with my family.

“Along with the trip, I’ll be doing history writing about the election of 1888 in the South for two to three hours a day for six weeks.”

**HOPING TO CATCH** new insect specimens, Science Teacher Daniel Jones and Daniel Calleri will practice taxidermy throughout DuPage, Cook, and Will counties.

“I’m going to prepare a beaver pelt and skeleton along with a coyote pelt with Dr. Calleri,” Mr. Jones said. “The point of collecting insects and the taxidermy is to build a population study for the incoming freshmen. We’ll be doing most of it during July and August.

“The process requires you to prepare the subject, mount it and then let it dry out. If they’re bigger, you have to fog them with mothballs.

“**MY GOAL** is to find an Ebony Jewel Wing Damsel fly, a really flashy and hard to catch fly, because my colleague Mr. Maharry, who teaches fifth grade science, got it before me.”

For one school department, there is never any summer vacation.

In Journalism, some U-Highlights staffers will work at least through mid-July and the Midway staff will return early in August to start a First-Day issue.

## Hey Labbies, Get Your Vintage Groove On at the Randolph Street Market!



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# City of Lights

## Photographer captures colors of city's palette

Hebah Masood  
Midway reporter

Easily spotted with bracelets up her arm and rings on every finger, Photojournalist Jackie Robertson, senior, started taking photos in 6th grade after seeing her sister's fascination with photography.

When her sister, Caroline Robertson, Class of 2005, transformed the family bathroom into a darkroom for Advanced Photography, 11-year-old Jackie decided she wanted to start taking photos. As a Middle Schooler, Jackie took photos around her house to experiment with long light exposures and blurry photos by jumping on her bed.

"WHEN I WAS little, I used to draw a lot, photography added to the whole artsy thing I was interested in," Jackie said. "I also always used to have a diary to document my life. I liked writing, and photos were a way of visually capturing moments."

Jackie first started documenting her life during her freshman year by taking photos around school. Using her mom's camera, she took Ms. Liese Ricketts' Beginning Photography class her sophomore year and in junior year became a member of the Ms. Ricketts' Photojournalism class, taking photos for the Midway and U-Highlights.

That same year, Jackie's parents bought her a DSLR camera making it possible for her to do Photojournalism.

NOW, JACKIE IS the U-Highlights photo editor and team sports editor. In that position she has photographed major school events, school life in general, numerous sports events and group photos of all teams.

For a Photojournalism project she continued her childhood interest of playing with light.

"I went around the city taking pictures of different lights," Jackie explained. "I took shots of the skyline and the lights got really cool around Christmas with all the decorations. I wanted to shoot it because Chicago is known for its lights. I live near school and I can drive so it's not too hard to get around for photos."

"THERE'S ONE PHOTO I'd like to take and I think it'll turn out really well. I want to shoot my friend Alice O'Keefe on Lake Shore Drive with the skyline in the background and cars moving past her."

"I really wanted to take photos of the city for my project since I'm so passionate about Chicago and I love working with lights and taking pictures of the skyline. The lights are so well known and define Chicago, so I guess I wanted to give people my perspective of the city and the different lights that are always around."

BECAUSE JACKIE likes playing with light, her photos are only effective in color. Originally, this page was supposed to be in black and white but eventually color became available.

"I was thinking the photo showcase had to be in black and white," said Ms. Ricketts. "Jackie's work must be in color. Jackie's a senior, and she's been in Photojournalism for two years now."

"She has really been a strong member, always volunteering for jobs no one else wants, stuff she doesn't even get credit for. But her pictures look terrible in black and white. When I found out the photo showcase would be in color, I contacted her immediately."



"I WANTED ANISHA (Sisodia) to be walking so that it looked like she was disappearing or half there," Jackie said of this photo taken on the Michigan Avenue Bridge over the Chicago River. "The techniques I used were putting the camera on a tripod at a lower angle, and having the exposure a little longer than usual so that you could see Anisha moving. I just wanted to show a differ-

ent view of the city from the river, and the movement of people walking in the Winter.

"I wanted this picture to have one person in it because I wanted the picture to have some sense of the actual city night in the winter. But I didn't want to take away from the idea of the city lights, so that's why I only used one person."



"I TOOK this picture at Lincoln Park Zoo during 'Zoo Lights,' in December. I was inspired to take this photo because there are so many colors and different kinds of lights, and the trees look amazing with them on. It kind of goes along with the theme of my project, that Chicago really is known for its lights. They do this light show every year, and people put so much effort and time into putting these lights up, and I think that's awesome."



"I WAS INSPIRED to take this photo because the lights of the cinema are really beautiful and the reflection off my car looked really nice while Yael (Litwen) was just looking at the lights. I used a tripod for this photo, and I think the angle was looking up from a lower point of view. I didn't use flash, and I put the camera on a nighttime mode. I wanted to show the bright lights of this area because with all the theatres and other lit-up places on State Street, it's kind of like Chicago's Times Square. I wanted Yael to be in this just so you could get the feeling that a lot of people come to this place and to really capture the energy of this area."



"THIS PICTURE was taken at night during the Fall in the school parking lot. I can't remember exactly what the lights were called but they were similar to sparklers. They went off for a minute or so and I took pictures of Matt and Mikey doing different things with them. I was really inspired to take this photo because I like long exposures, and experimenting with lights by writing words and drawing shapes. I used people in this shoot because they of course had to make the lights move, but they don't take the attention away from the lights, so it balances out nicely."



"THIS PICTURE was taken in early Spring from Graham Lewis' apartment window on the South Side. I love the view I wanted to get a shot of the city that is from a high point of view and show the city from the South Side of Chicago. I didn't use flash because it would have gotten the reflection from the window. I guess in this photo I wanted to show a different view, a bird's eye view, but also the feeling of being inside and looking out into the city."



# The year as seen by Midway cartoonist Gene Cochrane



Art by Gene Cochrane

## An in-between year of good will, missed opportunities

Petitions, a day devoted to diversity, a new schedule, a whole roasted lamb and snow days have contributed to an odd year, to say the least.

This has been a year of transition, like the one before it and we can only assume like the one to follow. That is what happens when a school makes a change like switch to a block schedule beginning next September.

People are for change, people are against it, people are confused and other people are indifferent and when so many people are on so many different sides of an issue, certain things become apparent about the nature of the community.

For example, when students realized what the new schedule would mean for them, several students began a petition against it, they called forums, Q & A sessions with administrators and created social net-

working groups to mobilize opposition.

But no one came to the forums, or the Q & A, people signed the petition but the extent of their zeal ended there.

"A day devoted to diversity" one Midway headline read to describe the first-ever Labsapes. A mandatory day devoted to discussing issues of race, socio-economics, gender and sexuality, the program was organized and largely run by students.

And while the faculty approved Labsapes, privately many teachers told Midway editors they didn't want to give precious class time up for it, but they also didn't want to look bad in not approving it.

We already have advisory devoted to diversity and Community Service, which is designed to insure U-Highers experience diversity first hand and get out of the U-High bubble. Both of these programs are required of all students as well.

So Labsapes was a very nice gesture, just like the petition was a very nice gesture. Gestures are good. Gestures show interest, intent, even passion for a cause or an issue. But this year has shown that simple gestures can cause U-Highers to miss out on opportunities.

The petition was a good gesture, but that is as far as most U-Highers went in making their opinion and voices heard, and now they will have to make do with the schedule as it is given to them for better or for worse.

Labsapes was a great gesture but it accomplished the same thing advisory, Community Service and many other school programs do. And it missed out an opportunity to really connect U-Highers with other perspectives and people outside of our community.

So U-High is still in transition, and there are still chances to not miss. —Nick Chaskin, Midway executive director of special projects and design vision

## OPINION AKILA RAOUL

### A long-sought goal reached in strange times

AFTER 11 YEARS and two Presidents, top 10 FBI Most Wanted Criminal Osama bin Laden was killed during a mere 40-minute operation.

Yet across the country, people were voicing their doubts as to the validity of his death and were clamoring for President Barack Obama to release the photos of bin



Laden's body. From what I could tell even at U-High suspicions were running high..

All I could say was, 'Let the President be.'

I can see why people might find it sketchy that bin Laden's body was thrown into the Red Sea and that President Obama refused to release the photos. But if one looks at the bigger picture, lying about the terrorist's death would do him more harm than good.

A lie like that would eventually come out, if not by bin Laden himself, then by his family and fellow al-Qaeda members. And that would leave President Obama with a scandal on his hands and even more problems than before.

And not only are people bashing President Obama for not releasing the photos, but they are saying he was wrong for calling for the death of bin Laden.

Now I'm not saying I am for corporal punishment, but we're talking about someone who wouldn't hesitate to kill a skyscraper full of innocent people doing their day to day routine, let alone the Intelligence Agents on the operation. Perhaps we could call his death a "safety pre-

caution."

In the space of four days President Obama not only trumped the "birthers" but he called into the action the plan that would lead to the death of Osama bin Laden, something the Bush administration tried and failed at for seven years.

Plus, the fact that it interrupted the "Celebrity Apprentice" is worth a round of applause.

And even with all the dispute over the validity of Osama bin Laden's killing, patriotism in America rose greatly.

The night of his death there was a rally in front of the White House celebrating the success of the mission that brought down bin Laden.

Many people are even accrediting President Obama with the success of the mission, something the Bush Administration did not succeed at.

Some people are even saying that President Obama is guaranteed a second term.

While I think that it is a little early in the election process to make definite guesses, I think he has a great chance of being reelected.

Aside from all the patriotism that the killing of Osama brought to America, it made evident the impact of social networking in the world.

I know for a fact that a lot of my friends didn't even find out about the killing from the news and instead found out about it from facebook.

And if anyone happened to be on twitter after the killing, they might have found out about it from the 3,440 tweets per minute.

## SAY WHAT?

Compiled by Spencer Lee

What was your best memory of this year and why?



Wilson

**JOLISHA JOHNSON, junior:** Endesha Logan coming back to visit for Formal and all of us weirdos dancing together.



Jolisha



Michele

**ISABEL MITCHELL, freshman:** Skiing over Spring Break at Steamboat, Colorado, was my favorite memory from this year.



Isabel

## U-HIGH MIDWAY

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# As the Midway's editors see it

PAGE 9 • U-High Midway • Tuesday, May 17, 2011

## SYDNEY SCARLATA

It would be an understatement to say that the senior class of 2011 will be missed.

It seems especially hard to say goodbye to them when I feel like I'm being left behind.

Now, the class of 2012 unofficially rules the school. Yes, the seniors have dropped in occasionally to say hello and to tie up some loose ends but the juniors are the head honchos now.

**SOMEHOW, THIS** doesn't excite me.

I miss seniors dressed in their P.J.s for "The Last Hurrah: Extremely Casual Errday" and their crazy ideas to cook an entire lamb in the courtyard that somehow seem to work.

I miss the filled classrooms that now only contain six students.

**I MISS** all the energy and excitement in the hallways over getting into college or going on May Project or getting asked to Prom.

I miss all the friends I could come to when I needed advice about a teacher or soccer game.

I guess now it's the class of 2012's turn to be the big guys on campus.

**IT'S OUR TURN**, 2012, to set new trends for U-High.

It's our turn to decorate the Senior Lounge with *appropriate* paraphernalia and advertise big school



events in the cafeteria.

It's our turn to come up with an awesome theme for Homecoming and to think of amazing ways to ask each other to prom.

**IT'S OUR TURN** to pull the seniority card and now it is our turn to supply advice to all the nervous underclassmen.

The class of 2011 will always be our big brother, so to speak. Maybe the reason these last two weeks have been so hard is because the seniors' nonchalant attitudes have disappeared and have been replaced with the stress and competition of completing junior year.

The seniors have left big shoes for us to fill. But 2012, let's think of the rest of this quarter and next year as a challenge.

Yes, we must deal with the hardships of college applications and getting good grades, but let's learn for the Class of 2011 and make the rest of High School something to remember.

## RAFI KHAN

Despite all the partying, yelling and general overwhelming joy that comes with the start of May Project, I have to admit, it's hard to say goodbye.

I'll try not to be too mushy.

**EVERYONE'S ALWAYS** praising the Lab Schools as a shining beacon of education, a place you can count on to produce the "leaders of tomorrow."

It's really hard to argue with this, once you look at the stats. The ridiculous percentage of seniors going to top universities. The number of teachers with advanced degrees or Golden Apples. The success, statewide and nationally, of our clubs and teams in spite of competition against larger schools.

The list goes on. And on.

**AND WHENEVER** a guest speaker, an admissions officer or a particularly excited teacher would spew those facts, some of you might have thought, as I did, "So what?"

I still know students I'd consider goof-ups, or doing things I wouldn't want my leaders doing, today or tomorrow. Computers still get stolen. Bulletin boards still get defaced. Kids still get bullied, or slip between the cracks.

To me, we're just a bunch of kids going to school.

**I'M CONVINCED**, behind the test scores, college acceptances and unusually large proportion of nerds, U-High-



ers are a pretty ordinary bunch.

At least, until something big happens.

Like the jobs of three long time security officers are threatened. Or three students are involved in a bike accident.

In those moments, students, teachers and administrators transcend the stats and the spiels, proving it's something else that makes U-High extraordinary.

**NOT TO MENTION** the smaller perks. We have relatively good security and a completely open campus, while other schools live through one entrance and exit, guarded by police officers and metal detectors.

Our administrators don't breathe-lyze at dances, and they can discipline students and stay approachable at the same time.

It's that communal trust and respect that U-Highers, teachers and administrators give each other that makes four years here memorable and something to be missed.

Gosh darn it.

Now I've gotten all mushy.

## RACHEL SYLORA

Nobody likes to be rejected.

Not by a friend, not by a program, and especially not by a college. But if there is one lesson I learned this year, it is that rejection happens no matter how hard you try to avoid it.

Whether it's not getting to speak at Graduation, or even something petty like not being able to go to Prom with the person you want to, rejection comes in many different forms.

**FOR ME**, most of my rejection occurred during the college admission process. I still dreadfully recall the day I found out I was rejected from my top choice. I cried for more than three hours straight. But after my eyes had swollen up and my head was spinning from sobbing, I realized that it wasn't the end of the world.

My mom always tells me, "Everything happens for a reason." I never believed it, until I finished the entire college process. Looking back, I have concluded that maybe I wasn't supposed to go to my top choice. Maybe it wasn't the right fit for me.

No one can predict the outcome of anything, especially college decisions. But regardless of the result, know that all of the hard work and determination you've put in has not gone to waste. I remember thinking that I would never recover from not getting into my top choice and that I wouldn't work hard in college because I busted my butt in High School and I felt like it didn't pay off.

**THE TRUTH** of the matter is, because of all the stressful nights in the Jour-



nalism Office, hours in the library, and study sessions at 3 a.m., I became who I am today.

Like the hard times in High School, getting rejected makes you a more mature, stronger, and humbler person. You can't always get what you want. Although it may be a bitter pill to swallow, it's a fact of life and the sooner it's accepted, the better.

The best way to recover from it is to simply move on. Whining to people, taking the issue up with an administrator, and lashing out on people who have no control over the situation, are probably the worst ways to handle it. Dragging out the situation, and going behind people's backs to get your way, doesn't do anyone any good.

**YOU WOULD THINK** that this would be common sense for anyone, especially at U-High. But U-High doesn't teach us how to handle rejection, and to be honest, I don't think it's something that can be taught.

All you can do is prepare for it, accept it, and grow from it.

Don't worry, when you overcome rejection, it will help lead you to success.

Everything will work

out in the end.

Keep your chin up.

## JEREMY WOO

**THE SCENE:** A deadline night at the U-High Journalism office, September, 2010. A frustrated senior boy toils over his third rewrite.

*Enter a mysterious stranger.*

**STRANGER:** Whatcha workin on there, buddy?

**BOY:** I just can't figure out this lead. Maybe I'm just not cut out for this. Wait a minute, who are you?

**STRANGER:** That's not important. I bring an urgent message from the future. You can't quit journalism, they need you!

**BOY:** What are you talking about?

**STRANGER:** In January, you will be promoted to editor-in-chief. Save the newspaper, save the world!

**BOY** (Sarcastically): Sure...and someday a teenage girl will be famous for a song about a day of the week. Go check your totem, Leonardo DiCaprio.

*The stranger is gone.*

Wait! Where did you go?

As you can imagine, that wasn't exactly how it would have happened, but if someone had told me at the beginning of the school year that I'd become an editor-in-chief, my response would have been largely the same.

I started writing for the Midway as a freelance reporter Junior year, and officially joined the staff back in August. Aside from my ability to compose a full sentence, I was relatively clueless. And in many respects, I still am.

**HOWEVER, IF THERE'S** one lesson to be taken away from my experience at the Midway, it's that it's



never too late.

Before joining the staff, I was a senior with no extracurriculars beyond athletics.

I didn't have the slightest idea what I wanted to do in college, and based off all the work that went into that first Midway, journalism didn't quite seem like that path.

**BUT UNDER** the tutelage of my peers, and of course Mr. Brasler, I learned the ropes faster than I could have imagined.

Honestly, it never crossed my mind that I'd be anything more than a reporter.

All I wanted to do was cover sports, and maybe write something else here and there. Yet here I am today, headed off to journalism school in the fall. Funny how things work out sometimes.

So no matter what grade you're in, what your interests are, what you want to be when you grow up, or what you ate for lunch yesterday, when the opportunity presents itself, don't be afraid to try something new.

**YOU MIGHT** love it, you might hate it, but give it a chance.

Because it's never too late to find out.

Thanks, U-High, for 15 beautiful years of my life.

*(Photos by Sarah Husain)*





DURING THE DOUBLE lunch May 5, CoEditor-in-Chiefs Sarah Husain, left, and Ary Hansen edit Sports Editor David Chung’s yearbook spread on Girls’ Basketball.

## 2011 yearbook to link myriad of new ideas chronologically

From beginning to end.

Covering the year chronologically, 2010-2011 U-Highlights will blend the traditional Life, Learning and Sports sections with multiple feature stories on each two-spreads.

**THE YEARBOOK** will also include for the first time since the early 1970s, club group photos, about 40 of them in their own section, say Editors-in-Chief Sarah Husain and Ary Hansen, juniors.

Sports spreads will focus on action photos and stories, with team photos and scoreboxes appearing in their own section in the back of the volume.

The book is planned for 208 pages, as compared with 176 last year, Sarah and Ary said.

**THE BOOK IS** advised by Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts and Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler.

“Mr. Brasler showed us a bunch of yearbooks from all different schools to get a feel for the chronological book, and we decided to go for it,” Sarah said.

“U-Highlights looks completely different this year. We’ve combined different topics that previously would have been separated. There are tons of things to look at on each page, like multiple stories and graphics.

“**WE TOOK INSPIRATION** from magazines, which feature photography as a main focal point. So far, we’re most proud of our blizzard spread, which showcases what different U-Highers did on the two snow days.”

## Colorado paper, adviser gets reinstated

Losing its right to publish, its adviser, and its future in print, the Scout of Overland High School in Colorado has come up smelling like roses after the principal suspended the newspaper and removed its adviser after the editors submitted an accurate story on medical findings in a student’s death.

After an avalanche of media coverage and advocacy from student press rights groups, administrators reinstated the paper with no restriction on the number of issues next year; withdrew a requirement of prior review; and announced plans for an online edition but no discontinuation of the print version.

Colorado is among seven states with laws protecting the high school press. Illinois has no such law, despite several attempts at achieving one.

## Renaissance magazine to offer eclectic range of art, literature

This year’s Renaissance, the school’s art and literary magazine, has a good chance of being distributed before the end of school next month, the editors say. If they can’t make that deadline, it will appear early next Fall.

The 9 by 14 inch edition will other 21 pieces of poetry, fiction and nonfiction and 30 to 40 art pieces.

The pieces were selected from work submitted by students by art and literary boards.

When only 10 or so pieces of art were submitted by students, the editors invited art teachers to participate, too, according to Renaissance Editor-in-Chief Brienne Ellis, senior.

For the first time, as far as the editors know, literary contributions could revise their submissions before

the final choice was made.

“The new process for choosing literature is kind of a college admissions system,” Brienne said. “We tried to keep the pool as big as possible, as we wanted many voices in the magazine.

“In addition, we tried to keep a balance between boys and girls and between grades.”

Staff organization was revised, too.

“Our decision with the whole Art Board situation was just to keep all members at an equal rank, no senior editors or anything,” Brienne said. “ But to be completely honest, I’ve naturally assumed a leadership position because I’m the only current member with previous experience using InDesign and I’ve been on Art Board for three years. ”

## ‘Best in nation’ award, others, arrive for Midway

Nick Chaskin’s investigative report on the Illinois Family Institute’s clout with public schools, particularly suburban Stevenson High School in the May 18, 2010, Midway has been chosen as the best news story to appear in the high school press in the past year in competition sponsored by the American Society of News Editors and Quill and Scroll journalism honor society.

### Editor-in-Chief makes State Journalism Team

Junior Sydney Scarlata, one of four Midway editors-in-chief, will be inducted into the Illinois Journalism Education Association’s All-State Team at a luncheon Saturday, June 4 at the governor’s mansion in Springfield.

Sydney is among eight students statewide chosen for the team on the basis of accomplishment and dedication.

At the same luncheon another Midway editor-in-chief, Rafi Khan, will be honored as runnerup in the Illinois Student Journalist of the Year competition.

## Math, Science teams ride high

Winning 1st place in its division in State Competition April 30 at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana for the fifth consecutive year, the Math Team took away numerous other honors, too. The U-Highers competed with students from schools with 400-1,000 enrollment.

The Geometry and Calculator teams both placed 1st in their competitions, Eliot Levmore won 1st at the freshman level and Yaning Zhang 1st at the sophomore level.

Other winners included the following:

**SOPHOMORES–2nd, Lane Gunderman; 3rd. Jason Deng; 8th, Danny Zhang.**

**JUNIORS–3rd, Charlie Jiang; 4th, Robert Radway.**

**SENIORS–2nd, Charles Du; 7th, Joe Turner.**

In its first year in competition, the Science Team achieved high rankings nationally in Junior Engineering Technical Society competition, Science Teacher Daniel Jones has announced.

The 9th- and 10th-grade team placed 32th among 312 schools, ranking the U-Highers 3rd in the nation among private schools.

The 11th- and 12th-grade team placed 146th among 900 schools, raking it 5th in the nation among private schools.



### Baaaaad for the lamb but in good taste

**FRIDAY, MAY 6,** which traditionally would have been Senior Cut Day, instead provided a treat for the school, lamb roast-

ed in the Courtyard. Among the many chefs were Henry Bergmann and Austin Morris. Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.



# SCOREBOX

## Girls' Soccer

The Maroons face Evergreen Park for the Regional Semifinal, 4:30 p.m., tomorrow, home.

### VARSITY

**Niles North**, April 23, away, Lost 1-2; **Parker**, April 28, away, Won 2-1; **Willows Academy**, April 29, away, Lost 0-3; **Woodlands**, May 3, away, Lost 0-3; **Latin**, May 6, home, Lost 1-2; **MPA**, May 7, away, Won 6-1; **Mother McAuley**, May 9, away, Lost 0-5; **DeLaSalle**, May 10, home, Won 2-0.

### J.V

**Willows Academy**, April 29, home, Tied 0-0; **AA Stagg**, May 2, away, Win 3-2; **Latin**, May 3, home, Lost 0-1; **DeLaSalle**, May 9, home, Tied 0-0; **Uno Charter School**, May 11, home, Won 2-0; **Elgin Academy**, May 12, home: Won 4-0.

## Baseball

The Maroons have their Regional Championsips against Lindblom, 4:15 p.m., this Thursday, May 26.

### VARSITY

**Holy Trinity**, March 30, home: Lost 3-2; **Hales**, March 31, away: Won 8-0; **MPA**, April 6, away: Won; **North Shore**, April 9, away: lost; **Parker**, April 13, away: Won; **Northridge**, April 14, home: Won 9-8; **MPA**, April 21, home: Won; **Latin**, April 23, away: Lost; **North Shore**, April 26, away: Lost; **Parker**, April 30, home: Won; **Northridge**, May 3, away, Lost 8-7; **Latin**, May 6, home: Lost; **Holy Trinity**, May 7, away: Lost; **Seton**, May 10, away: Lost.

### J.V

**Northridge**, May 3, home: Lost 1-13; **Parker**, May 4, home: Lost 7-10; **Latin**, May 6, home: Won 13-1; **Latin**, May 11, away: Won 9-6.

## Boys' Tennis

The Maroons have their Sectional competition, 2 p.m., this Friday, May 20, home.

### VARSITY

**North Shore**, April 29, away: Won 3-2; **Northridge**, May 3, home: Won 4-0; **Fenwick**, May 4, away: Lost 1-4; **MPA**, May 5, home: Lost 0-5; **Walter Payton**, May 9, home: Won 3-2

### J.V

**North Shore**, April 29, away: Won 5-0; **Fenwick**, May 4, away: Lost 2-3; **MPA**, May 5, home: Won 4-0; **Latin**, May 9, away: Lost 2-3; **Lane Tech**, May 10, home: Won 4-0.

The ISL Championsip game, May 14, came past Midway deadline.

## Track

The boys' team face six teams for the Regional Championship , 1 p.m. May 20 at Hansen Stadium.

The Maroons placed 4 out of 6 for the girls, with 71 points at the Conference Meet, May 6 at Chicago Christian. The boys placed 3 out of 6 with 99 points.

The team also placed 7 out of 17 boys, 6 out of 17 girls, at the Chicago Christian Meet April 29.

The girls Regional Championship results, May 13, came past Midway deadline.

# “I’ll never forget...”



Mac Sinclair  
Baseball

That no hitter against Parker. It was perfect, everything went well, and we got to beat a rival. It was a team effort, my defense really helped me all the way through.



Akila Raoul  
Golf

How I made sectionals. I didn't expect it, but I was glad that the improvement that I had last season helped. It was exciting!



Carah Alexander  
Track

When I first joined and everyone was so nice, especially Marissa Guiang and Ary Hansen. They helped me get integrated into the team. I'm really glad that they was there for me



David Chung  
Swimming

The moment that Coach Del Campo told us that he was leaving. Even though it was sad we were so happy for him about the baby.



Gaba Rosenbacher  
Volleyball

The Regional game against Hope. I served a few aces, but more than that, it was great being able to work with the seniors who were amazing. We beat them in two sets.



Lucas Buchheim-Jurison  
Tennis

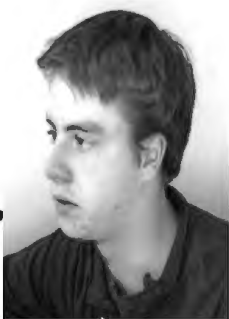
When we came from behind to beat Whitney Young. We knew it was possible and I can't wait to do it again next year.



Thanh Hein Ngo  
Badminton

The second day of the badminton club. There were a lot more people than I expected, especially since we started the whole thing in a hurry.

Going into triple-overtime in the State Championship round of 16 against Joliet Catholic, even though we lost in a heartbreaker.



J.R Reed  
Hockey

How great the team was together. We made locker posters and we've started dressing for games, we had a neon day, and cowgirl day.



Alejandra Guevara  
Soccer

The game against Glenbard South. It was the last game of the season, and even though we lost, it was a good game. We did everything we were supposed to.



Martin Garrett-Curie  
Soccer

When Matt beasted the Regional Final against Hope. Even though we lost, he got 20 points in the 4th quarter. We played a good game.



Louis Van Craen  
Basketball

When Aalap Herur-Raman got flipped over by our instructor, Joshua Granger. It was raw, we made him redo it a couple of times so we could take a video



Austin Morris  
Capoeira

Senior Night for me. We were all so excited that we dropped a lot of time and the seniors got presents, like pillows and candy.



Maya Fishbach  
Swimming

## Awards night honors athletes

Which athletes will received the coveted and historic Monilaw Awards this year?

The answer, and many others, will be revealed at the seventh annual Athletic Awards Ceremony, 6 p.m., Wednesday, June 1 in Upper Kovler Gym.

All U-High athletes and their families are invited to this festive evening, which begins with a dinner buffet. All teams will recognized and honored for their achievements, with Athletic Director David Ribbens as the congenial master-of-ceremonies.

At Emory College in Atlanta Gabrielle Clark, U-High Class of 2011, became the third player in the history of the University Athletic Association to be named Most Valuable Player and Rookie of the Year for women's tennis in the same year. She was also named to the all-UAA First Team as first singles player.



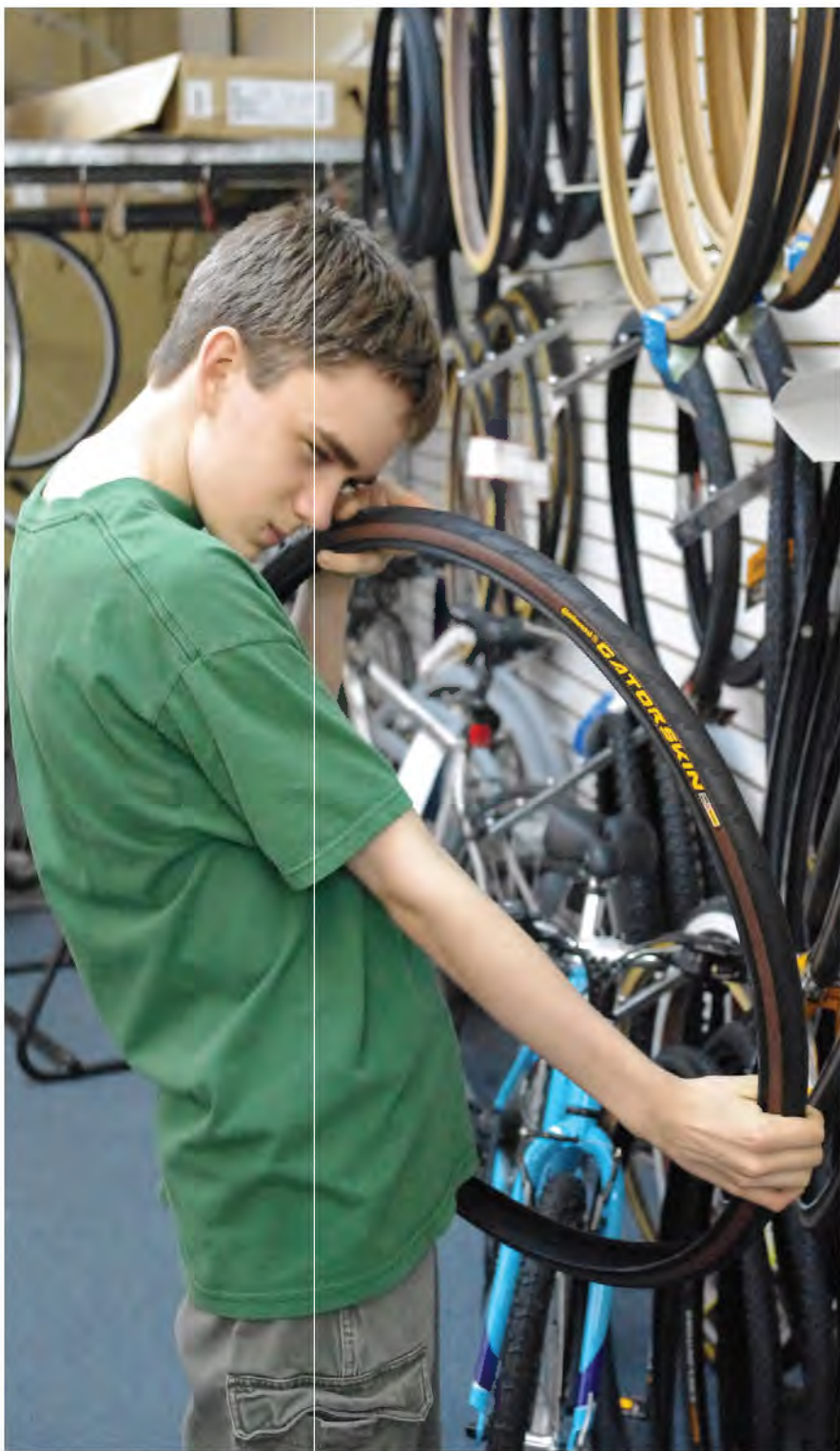


# ≡WHEELS & THINGS≡



Rush Brown checks out the gears on the bike he wants at Wheels & Things.

With bikes for all, **Wheels & Things** can suit all your biking needs. Whether you need a lock, a bike, a water bottle, a shirt or repairs, **Wheels & Things** has it all.



Rush makes sure that his road tires will stand up to anything he can throw at them.

*Photos by Jeffery Li*



Rush tries out a bright red bike with hopes of new style.

**1340 East  
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**MONDAY** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Closed  
**THURSDAY** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**FRIDAY** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.