

U-HIGH MIDWAY EXTRA

Tuesday,
June 7,
2011

University High School,
1362 West 59th Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60637
Volume 86, Number 9

Looking ahead,
looking back



SURROUNDED BY FISH tanks, seniors and their dates explored the dolphin exhibit in the oceanarium, one of three exhibits Prom-goers had access to May 28 during their Prom at the Shedd Aquar-

ium. The Shedd's main foyer served as both a dance floor and dining hall. From left are Eric Pettinato, Former U-Higher Jasmine Harris, Wilson Sinclair, Former U-Higher Karen Taylor, Sarah

Garvey, Ana Ovtcharova, Becky Fox, Anna Rosenzweig, Daniel Zhou, Jennifer Pan, Caitlin Goldwater, Jaime Heillbrunn, Bianca Carter and Alex Ford. *Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.*



TAKING A BREAK from exploring museum exhibits, from left, Sasha Karapatrova Sebastian Lopez, Ary Hansen and Sam Neal jam to the musical stylings of D.J. Yoni Einhorn, a University of Chicago student. *Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.*

AFTER, BY TABLES, seniors nominated Prom King and Queen, and faculty chaperons tallied the votes. Henry Harboe and Layla Ehsan were crowned the 2011 royalty. During the coronation Sasha humorously attempted to fit Henry's crown over his hair. *Photo by Taylor Crowl.*



Fish, but not for dinner



ENJOYING a fresh green salad and conversation, Wolfgang Foulkes and Maria Conlon observed a scuba diver feeding fish in the Shedd's circular habitat. Dinner also included chicken parmesan or cheese ravioli and chocolate mousse for dessert. *Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.*



BEFORE DINNER, Charles Du and his date Chelsea Voss from Cupertino (California) High School, who he met at the Biology Olympiad over the summer, wondered through the temporary Jellies exhibit, featuring over 10 species. *Photo by Sarah Husain.*



AFTER ARRIVING through the Shedd's special events entrance, from left, Joe Philipson, Rose Traubert, Emily Robertson and Rachel Sylora socialized in the Oceanarium, before being ushered into the aquarium's main foyer. Finding her dress at Neiman-Marcus, Rachel used large flower rings, a silver necklace and silver clutch purse to complement the elegant simplicity of the gown. *Photo by Sarah Husain.*

Cold doesn't chill play's fun



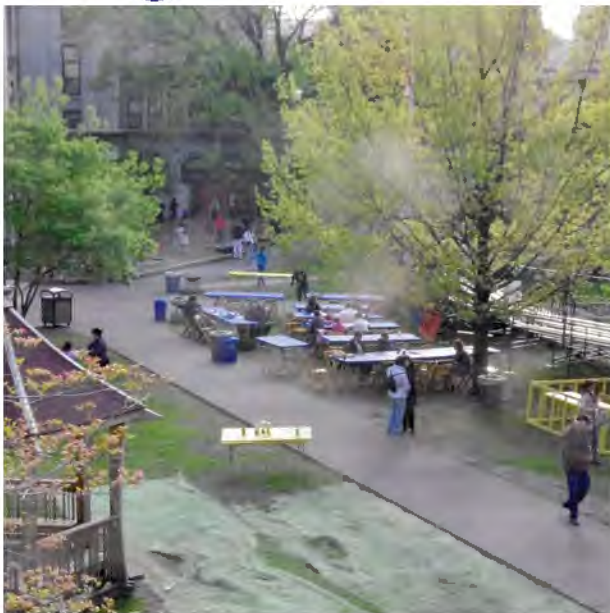
A GROWING NOSE, FOOD, games. All were present at Rites of May and the International Festival May 19-21. Though crowds at Rites of May were thin, the International Festival proved a popular event, attracting all day crowds. And despite cold temperatures, the Courtyard bleachers filled with playgoers for the colorful production of "Pinocchio."

JUMPING FROM the mouth of the Great Shark (photos from left) Wilson Sinclair, por-



traying Pinocchio; Loren, his father Gepetto; and Staci Gusakova, the Blue Fairy narrowly elude danger once again.

A BALLOON enthusiast, Steven Glick, treated Lower and Middle School students to animals during the International Festival on Saturday. Families enjoyed ethnic cuisine at the International Cafe and eight booths in Upper Kovler Gym represented nations around the world with accompanying music and dance performances.



Carnival games and a moonbounce in Kenwood Mall also proved popular.

PERHAPS BECAUSE of bitter cold, the Courtyard stayed sparsely populated Thursday and Friday. Those who attended could buy barbecue food and ethnic treats and play games sponsored by student groups. Hamburgers grilled by Dean of Students Larry McFarlane were available among the goodies. *Photos by Remy Lewis, Sarah Husain, and Jeff Li.*

Chicago schools top destinations for 2011 grads; one will double up

By Marissa Page
and Siobhan O'Muircheartaigh
Midway reporters

While most of this year's expected 121 graduates will head to one college next year, one senior will be heading for two.

Senior Layla Ehsan will head to Providence, Rhode Island, to attend both Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design.

The First 5

1. Northwestern and University of Chicago
3. Yale
4. Michigan and University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana

both Brown and RISD.

Planning to study cognitive science at Brown and painting at RISD, Layla first heard about the program from Art Teacher Brian Wildeman, RISD Class of 1991, and College Counselor Patty Kovacs.

"GIVEN MY INTERESTS in art but also my desire to continue studies outside of art, I thought that I would be good for the program and the program would be good for me," Layla explained. "For my essay, I wrote about how it's hard for me to choose between art and English or biology, and how I think that one area of study can also definitely inform and give strength to the other."

While the Midwest proved the most popular college location last year, 52 graduates will head to the East Coast this year, making it the choice destination.

Forty-seven will stay in the Midwest, 13 will attend schools on the West Coast and one will journey South.

ONLY TWO SENIORS will leave the country, crossing the border to attend McGill University in Quebec, Canada.

All eight Ivy Leagues schools are represented in the graduates' choices.

Two Chicago schools, Northwestern University in north suburban Evanston and the University of Chicago, will garner the most U-Highers, with seven heading to each. The third most popular choice, Yale University, in New Haven, Connecticut, will gain six U-Highers.

BY SCHOOLS, seniors plan to attend the following: **Barnard**, New York City: Amrita Singh; **Beloit**, Wisconsin: Elliot Tom; **Boston University**: Jackie Robertson, Danny Traub; **Brown**, Providence, Rhode Island: Layla Ehsan; **Bryn Mawr**, Pennsylvania: Sapana Anand; **California Institute of the Arts**, Santa Clarita: Wolfgang Foulkes; **College of Wooster**, Ohio: James Torpy; **Columbia University**, New York City: John Chen; **Cornell University**, New York City: Marissa Guiang; **Dartmouth**, Hanover, New Hampshire: Robert Meyer; **Denison University**, Granville, Ohio: Joel Sachnoff; **DePaul**, Chi-

cago: Sebastian Lopez; **George Washington University**, Washington, D.C.: Lia Sanfelippo.

Grinnell, Iowa: Austin Morris, Ana Ovtcharova; **Harvard**, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Charles Du, Alex Nesbitt, Rose Traubert; **Haverford**, Pennsylvania: Wilson Sinclair; **Howard**, Washington, D.C.: Christina Ahme; **Illinois Institute of Technology**, Chicago: Shacara Ledbetter; **Illinois State University**, Normal: Odette Popko; **Illinois**, Champaign-Urbana: Sarah Freedman, Rajiv Nori, Amy Northrop, Jan Uhlig; **Indiana**, Bloomington: Thomas Aquino, Brianna Solola; **Iowa**, Iowa City: Emily Roberts; **Johns Hopkins**, Baltimore, Maryland: Jeff Brehm; **Knox**, Galesburg, Illinois: Erik Gustafson; **Lawrence University**, Appleton, Wisconsin: Nathaniel Levmore.

Loyola Marymount, Los Angeles, California: Daniel Martinez; **Macalester**, St. Paul, Minnesota: Charlotte Lastra; **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge: Jono Matthews; **McGill University**, Quebec, Canada: Ariane Carter, Mollie Rotmensch; **Miami University**, Oxford, Ohio: Justin Algee, Michael Sullivan; **Michigan**, Ann Arbor: Michael Baroody, Anjali Gundeti, Jonathan Portugal, Rachel Sylora; **Missouri**, Columbia: Hadley Leasman; **New York University**, New York City: Yael Litwin, Tim Thomas III; **Northeastern**, Boston, Massachusetts: Connie He, Veronica Ramirez; **Northwestern**, Evanston, Illinois: Aalap Herur-Raman, Anna Hopkins, Delia Privitera, Michael Turner, Tina Umanskiy, Jeremy Woo, Jianan Zhou; **Notre Dame**, South Bend, Indiana: Jonathan Jou.

Oberlin, Ohio: Yi Chang, Henry Harboe; **Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia: Matthew Hanessian; **Pittsburgh**, Pennsylvania: Danielle Verdirame; **Pitzer**, Claremont, California: Alex Barber; **Pomona**, Claremont, California: Sasha Karapetrova, Michael Shapiro; **Princeton**, New Jersey: Joe Turner; **Puget Sound**, Tacoma, Washington: Nick Chaskin, Santana Iafeta, Liam Mireles; **Purdue**, West Lafayette, Indiana: Tyler Anderson; **Rhode Island School of Design**, Providence: Dan Brewer; **Sarah Lawrence**, Bronxville, New York: Alice O'Keefe, Jonathan Worcester; **School of the Art Institute of Chicago**: Gavin Ringquist; **Smith**, Northampton, Massachusetts: Anna Rosenzweig; **Southern California**, Los Angeles: Jack Burns; **Stanford**, Palo Alto, California: Fraser Brown; **St. Olaf**, Northfield, Minnesota: Zoe McDaniel; **Swarthmore College**, Pennsylvania: Ben Postone.

Syracuse University, New York: Julian du Buclet; **Tufts**, Medford, Massachusetts: Emmy Ehrmann, Joe Philipson, Matthew Soble, Amanda Yuan; **University of California**, Santa Barbara: Anisha Sisodia, John Tomlinson; **University of Chicago**: Adrian Aldana, Ben Buchheim-Jurison, Maggie Carton, Sam Neal, Alex Nirenberg, Stephanie Xiao, Claudia Yang.

Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania: Chinami Luppescu; **Vanderbilt**, Nashville, Tennessee: Shane Selig; **Vassar**, Poughkeepsie, New York: Karlin Gatten; **Washington**, Seattle: Isaac Nicholas; **Washington in St. Louis**, Missouri: Bianca Carter; **Wellesley**, Massachusetts: Brieenne Ellis, Sarah Garvey; **Wisconsin**, Madison: Crystal Maciel; **Wesleyan**, Middletown, Connecticut: Nicholas Msall.

United States Military Academy, West Point, New York: David Chung; **Wheaton**, Illinois: Grant Hensel; **Williams**, Williamstown, Massachusetts: Henry Bergman, Amir Hay; **Yale**, New Haven, Connecticut: Hannah Constantin, Maya Fishbach, Sam Frampton, Rafi Khan, Tara Rajan, Peter Zhang.

Editor's note: *The list includes all seniors who consented to be included the story and is subject to change.*

finally...

■ OH, NO, WE HAVE TO DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN?—Don't settle too comfortably into Summer Vacation. Before you know it, school will be starting again. Here is the schedule:

Faculty Planning Week, Tuesday, August 31-Friday, September 3; **Labor Day**, no school, Monday, September 6; **School opens**, Tuesday, September 7; **Faculty In-Service Day**, no classes, Friday, November 5; **Thanksgiving break**, Wednesday, November 24-Friday, November 26; **Winter Vacation**, Monday, December 20-Friday, December 31; **Martin Luther King Day**, no classes, Monday, January 17; **Winter Break**, Friday, February 11 and Monday, February 14; **Spring Vacation**, Wednesday March 16-Friday, March 25; **Faculty In-Service Day**, no classes, Friday, April 15; **Memorial Day**, no school, Monday, May 30; Commencement, Thursday, June 9; **End of school**, Friday, June 10.

■ MORE MUSIC HONORS—In scholarship competition finals at the Sherwood of Music last month several U-Highers took honors, as follows: 1st place, Rex Gu; 2nd, Danny Zhang; 3rd place, Yaning Zhang; and 4th place, Catherine Zhou. All are sophomores.

■ PART OF HISTORY—Senior Lehla Ehsan won honors in the final round of the Chicago Metro History Fair, and received the highest rating, Superior, in the Illinois State History Fair. The History Fair is sponsored by the Chicago Metro History Education Center headquartered at the Newberry Library.

■ RAVES FOR RENAISSANCE—Students and teachers who got a sneak peek at the new issue of Renaissance, which began distribution last week, praised its elegantly clean design and European-style 13 inch by 9 inch horizontal page size. The high quality of the issue's literature and art also was praised. Senior Brieenne Ellis served as editor-in-chief

■ SPORTS FINALE—U-High teams wound up the Spring season with numerous victories recognized, along with those of Fall and Winter teams, at the Sports Honors Program Wednesday evening in Kovler Gym.

The school's highest honor for athletic excellence, outstanding sportsmanship and scholarship, named for the school's first athletic director, Dr. William Monilaw went to Tyler Anderson, Alex Nesbitt, Rachel Sylora and Rose Traubert.

The Athletic Director's Award for outstanding achievement went to Tom Aquino, Ben Buchheim-Jurison, David Chung, Matt Hanessian, Michael Turner and Tina Umanskiy.

The James Wherry-Willis Award in honor of the 1987 graduate who excellent in three sports went to Robert Meyer.

A large crowd of students, parents, administrators, faculty members and friends of the school turned out for the evening, which began with a much-praised buffet dinner catered by the Café Lab staff offering pulled pork sandwiches, turkey sandwiches, a selection of salads and pasta, desserts and a variety of fresh fruit-flavored water drinks.

Track teams made strong showings in the Independent School League Conference competition. Boys placed 3rd of 6 teams and girls 4th of 6.

Conference Champs included by event: Long jump, Julian DuBuclet; 4x400 boys' relay, Peter Zhang, Joe Turner, Robert Meyer, Ben Buchheim-Jurison; 4x400 girls' relay, Laura Anderson, Alex Chang, Katelyn Scuihyta, Catherine Yunis.

The girls moved on to the Kenwood Sectional Meet at Hanson Stadium on Fullerton just east of Central May 13 and placed 5th, with seven Maroons qualifying for State Finals the weekend of May 20. In Sectionals, Freshman Sonia Bourdaghs and Sophomore Laura Anderson respectively finished 1st and 2nd. Sonia qualified for State in the 1600-meter run and the 4 x 800 meter team qualified by finishing 2nd; the team included Juniors Catherine Yunis, Alex Chang and Katelyn Suchtya and Sophomore Jordan Einhorn.

At State May 20 at Eastern Illinois University in downstate Charleston, Sonia finished 2nd in the 3200 run and Laura Anderson finished 2th. Sonia ran a personal best of 5:41.71 in the 1600.

Boys ran Sectionals May 20 at Hanson and finished 2nd. State qualifiers included Seniors Justin Algee, 1st in high jump; Thomas Aquino, 1st in the 300; and Robert Meyer, 1st in the 1600 run and 2nd in the 3200.

A week later at State at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, all completed strongly with Robert nearly breaking the 1600m record held by track legend Dan McGinn, Class of 1991.

At ISL Tennis Championships May 14, Senior Tyler Anderson ended runnerup in first singles; Sophomore Lucas Buchheim-Jurison ended 3rd in second singles; Senior Rajiv Nori and Sophomore Arnol Gundeti finished 3rd in third doubles; and Freshman James Duran and Junior Daniel Eimer finished 4th in second doubles.

Sectionals followed May 20-21 at home with Tyler and Lucas proceeding to State competition.

In Regionals May 18 at Evergreen Park and May 20 at home, soccer girls defeated St. Joseph of west suburban Westchester 4-0 to win the championship and advance to Sectionals May 25 at Riverside-Brookfield against Nazareth Academy of LaGrange.

In Regionals May 26 at Washington High School, baseball Maroons beat Washington 8-5 to win the Championship for the second time in three years. Junior Mac Sinclair pitched the entire game.

The Maroons advanced to Sectionals last Thursday against Jones College Prep there, losing a squeaker 6-5.

■ CORRECTIONS AND APOLOGIES—In its May 17 issue Midway Sports Editor William Chung reported a boys' tennis loss to Morgan Park Academy of 5-0 May 5 at home. Wrong. U-High won.

In his preview of the Spring Production, "Pinocchio," Nick Phalen inadvertently left out the members of the band accompanying the production: Senior Yael Litwin, keyboard; Junior Jessica Hubert, cello; and Sophomore Ellyn Butler, flute.

Trip to China will take in multiple cities, opportunities

By Jeffery Li
Midway reporter

Traveling from Beijing to Xi'an to Luoyang, nine students taking Chinese as a World Language will experience first-hand Chinese culture, leaving Monday, June 20 and returning Sunday, July 10. Accompanied by Chinese teachers Xinglu Liang and Ching-Yun Chang, the students will arrive after a 12-hour flight at Beijing Capital International Airport. Four students will stay with host families who have affiliations with Peking University, while the five other students will live in dorms.

THE TEACHERS have planned visits to the Forbidden City, Tian'anmen Square, and the Bird's Nest, the main stadium for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. During breaks between those trips they will attend courses to help immerse them into Chinese culture such as Calligraphy, Martial Arts, and Mandarin classes.

"Chinese calligraphy is beautiful because of the technique you have to use when writing," Freshman Isabel Mitchell said. "It really caught my attention because it's traditional and would really help my writing, and I look forward to a fun experience."

From Beijing, the students will ride a high-speed bullet train to Xi'an for a tour of the Terracotta Army Wednesday, July 6, then travel to Luoyang and visit a Shaolin temple Friday, July 9.

ARRIVING BACK in Beijing from Xi'an Saturday, July 9, the U-Highers will finish the trip shopping at Xiushui market, and receive a certificate for completing classes at the university, according to Ms. Liang.

"The students will receive an honorary certificate upon completion of the courses at Peking," Ms. Liang said. "The courses will teach them Chinese history, and give firsthand experience of a Chinese student's life. When they walk around the university's campus, they will see the old architecture and old way of life."



Journalist meets with journalists

PRIZE-WINNING investigative reporter David Jackson, U-High Class of 1976, provided U-High journalists a memorable hour when he discussed his career experiences as Midway editors visited the Chicago Tribune May 13. The visit had been arranged by Ms. Karen Flax, parent of Midway staff members Leah Barber and Alex Barber. The U-Highers also met with other Trib stars including columnist John Kass and were treated to lunch at the legendary journalists' gathering spot, the Billy Goat Tavern.

Photo by Sarah Husain.

Luncheon honors community servants

Sophomores were honored for their community service work along with Peer Leaders and Community Partners at the Community Learning Appreciation Luncheon May 19 at International House.

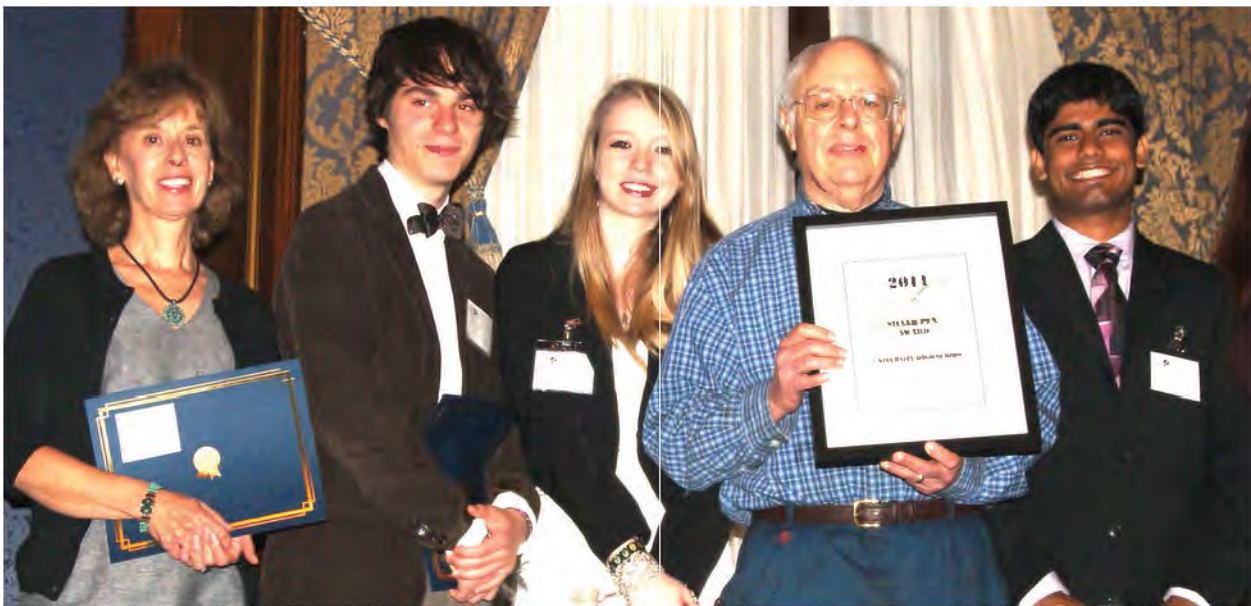
Mr. Brandon McNab, academic and partner relations director of MetroSquash, gave the keynote address. MetroSquash blends the sport of squash with academic instruction to inspire young people to achieve their top potential.

Nine Unsing Heroes were recognized at the event:

Ms. Cynthia Boykin, security; Mr. Michael Cephus, security; Ms. Ying Sau Cheung, mailroom coordinator; Ms. Michelle Freeman, food services; Mr. Patrick Fuller, librarian; Mr. Anthony Hunter, maintenance; Mr. Roberto Luna, maintenance; Mr. Terry Shanks, gym attendant; Ms. Shirley Volk, librarian.



Photo by Christian Castaneda
MR. BRANDON McNAB, speaker



AT THE Illinois Woman's Press Association luncheon May 20, U-High representatives accept the Midway's Silver Pen award for overall excellence. From left are Anisha Sisodia's mother Diane Van Hoff-Sisodia; 1st-place cartoonist Gene Cochrane, perennial winner who tied with

himself; 1st-place national and state winner Jackie Robertson; Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler; and 1st-place national and state winner Rafi Khan. "I hate getting up at these things," Mr. Brasler said. He advises the Midway with Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts.

Midway staff extends streak of national, state 1st-place honors

By Aneesh Kanakamedala

Midway reporter

With Midway editor-in-chief Nick Chaskin winning a first-in-nation news story award recently, two other Midway staff members have followed up with first-in-nation column writing and sports photography awards in another competition.

Editor-in-Chief Rafi Khan and Photographer Jackie Robertson (who is U-Highlights photo editor), both seniors, won 1st places in a National Federation of Press Women competition after placing 1st in an Illinois Woman's Press Association contest. They were honored along with other IWPA winners at a luncheon May 20 at the Union League Club downtown.

IN ALL, the Midway took six First Place awards and 15 total. The paper also won its third Silver Pen award for overall excellence.

Following the IWPA luncheon both Rafi and fellow Editor-in-Chief Sydney Scarlata were headed for the governor's mansion in Springfield last Saturday where the Illinois Journalism Education Association was honoring Rafi as runnerup in its High School Student Journalist of the Year program and Sydney as one of eight members of the All-State Journalism Team. Rafi also had made the National Scholastic Press Association's Honor Roll of Student Journalists.

In the IJEA's new high school competition, which succeeds a contest sponsored by the Eastern Illinois School Press Association, U-Highers won seven 1st places, including Akila Raoul, news story; Rafi, feature; Jeremy Woo, sports; Gene Cochrane, both cartoons and graphics; Sam Reynolds and Anisha Sisodia, advertisements; and Nick Phalen, front page design.

THE MIDWAY was named Best Overall Newspaper and took 1st place in Overall Design. Other winners were as follows:

SECOND PLACE-Sports, Duncan Weinstein; **column**, Nick Phalen; **photograph**, Jackie Robertson; **graphic**, Nick Chaskin; **advertisement**, William Chung and Taylor Crowl; **front page**, Nick Phalen.

THIRD PLACE-News, Nick Chaskin; **editorial**, Rafi Khan; **review**, Maira Differding; **cartoon**, Gene Cochrane.

Rafi's column writing award was for three entries, on texting, legalizing marijuana use and the "n" word.

"I chose the topics because they were relevant to teenagers, timely and I felt I could provide a fresh outlook," he said.



RAFI AND JACKIE were presented with their 1st-place Illinois Woman's Press Association state awards and announced as National Federation of Press Women winners by IWPA President Marianne Wolf-Astraukas, an accomplished author.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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PAGE EDITORS THIS ISSUE
1, news.....Nick Phalen
2, photofeature.....Sydney Scarlata
3, news.....Nick Phalen
4, news.....Spencer Lee

The Midway staff wishes here to express appreciation to its printer for beautiful craftsmanship all year and for getting the paper out on time even when making deadlines proved problematic for us.

FACULTY ADVISERS
Editorial and production
Mr. Wayne Michael Brasler
Photojournalism
Ms. Liese Ricketts

What's up on the front cover

From top:

■ DURING A team-building exercise at Junior Retreat in April, Izy Ruyter-Harcourt trusts her classmates to lift her towards the ceiling. Juniors participated in group activities focusing on communication and comraderie.

■ CLAD IN MATCHING pink sweatshirts, Sarah Curci and Jillian Dreixler celebrated Twin Day during Spirit Week in October.

■ OUTFITS COMPLETE with Hawaiian-themed straw hats, Leslie Sibener, Sydney Scarlata and Rosie Cuneo-Grant arrived at the Spring Fling in April.

■ QUICKLY RUINING Chumin Wu's white t-shirt, Kavia Khosla douses him with a bucket of orange-dyed water during the Asian Students' Association Holi celebration last month.

■ LEADING DISCUSSIONS during Labsapes in November, Justin Algee asks U-Highers questions about their personal diversity experience. Participating in student-led workshops, watching a documentary film, and observing a panel discussion gave U-Highers a full day devoted to considering facets of diversity.

■ DRESSED IN pirate garb for January's dodgeball benefit for Kids Involved in the Cure for Cancer benefit in Upper Kovler Gym, Alex Ortel readies himself to take on his next opponent. His team was defeated in the first round.

■ UNAWARE THAT turning his back has made him vulnerable to a sneak attack by Aalap Herur-Raman, Matt Hanessian enjoys a day off school because of heavy snow, one of two consecutive in February. Dropping rapidly falling heavy snow blown by fierce winds, overnight, leaving thousands of homes without power, and forcing the closure of Lake Shore Drive, Chicago's historic blizzard wreaked havoc on the city.

■ AGAINST THE WHITE of the snow, Catherine Zhou and Ellen Ma form a heart while checking out the abandoned streets and cars trapped by the blizzard.

■ Background photo: THIS BUS was among many brought to a halt by the February storm.

Photos by Sarah Husain, Anna Rosenzweig, Veronica Ramirez, Lili Steffen, Connie He, Anisha Sisodia and Delia Privitera.