

# The college conundrum

*Students and parents, counselors and colleges offer their perspectives*

By Julian Lark, Grace Anderson and Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson

Fit.

From every angle of the college application process, finding a place for prospective college freshmen boils down to fit.

Just as colleges strive to fully evaluate the seniors applying to their schools, so too do seniors, parents and college counselors Patty Kovacs, Abigale Wagner and Melissa Warehall aim to evaluate the colleges and how they fit students' personalities. From parental involvement and economic circumstances to cultural background and academic interests, students reflect on everything while completing applications.



Katie

**SOME STUDENTS**, including senior Katie Adlaka, have struggled to identify schools that stand out to them.

"On the campus visits, I was constantly hearing the same information about the school's strong advising system, small class sizes, research opportunities and other sellable highlights," Katie said. "I have learned the most about my schools of interest from just talking to alumni and current students and reading the school's newspaper. This is all real and accurate information coming from individuals who have studied, lived and changed at these schools."

For students of color, the search for a communi-



Photo by Paige Fishman

As he talks through his thoughts on colleges with college counselor Patty Kovacs, Philip Gianfortune points out his favorite elements shown in the colleges' brochures.

ty in which they can find a comfortable place complicates their ability to find their "dream school." Senior Alijah Futterman explained that finding a school with strong academic programs is not difficult, but knowing whether there is a strong black community at the school is.



Alijah

**"I'VE TALKED** to a lot of college students who go to really great schools—the kinds of schools that seem impossible to get into, college students that were my program leaders from the Telluride Association Summer Program who went to Columbia and Loyola in New Orleans, my TASP program leader who went to Amherst and people who live in the telluride houses at Cornell and Michigan," Alijah said.

"Although I've always thought that anyone who goes to a great school will probably be happy, a lot of them have talked about how the lack of support for students of color made their experiences really negative. At one of the schools I really want to go to, I had the opportunity to sit down with the director of black community affairs.

"She told me that being black at any school that isn't a Historically Black College will be a strug-

gle, but after describing the spaces available for black students to have the kind of conversations that aren't always encouraged in the classroom, I knew I could be happy there. I need to find a school where I don't have to explain my hair to people, where I have people to date, where I have mentors, where I have people who've had similar struggles and experiences."

**IN ADDITION TO RACE**, many students with foreign heritage have a different perspective on the college process. Even the Common App touches on this, senior Apoorva Gundeti said.

"I know one thing that I've bonded with people about is filling in the section about where your parents went to college," Apoorva said. "For me, since my parents didn't go to school in the U.S., it was a struggle to find the addresses and manually enter it in, and it was similar for a lot of others whose parents came from other countries."

Apoorva's father, Doctor Mohan Gundeti of the University of Chicago's pediatric urology department, who is originally from Solapur, India, said in a phone interview that the American college application process is more comprehensive in the information it requires from students than the

(continued on page 12)



Photo by Paige Fishman

With the U-High profile in hand, Michael Horio discusses what application materials he needs to send to colleges with secretary Jeannie Grbavac.

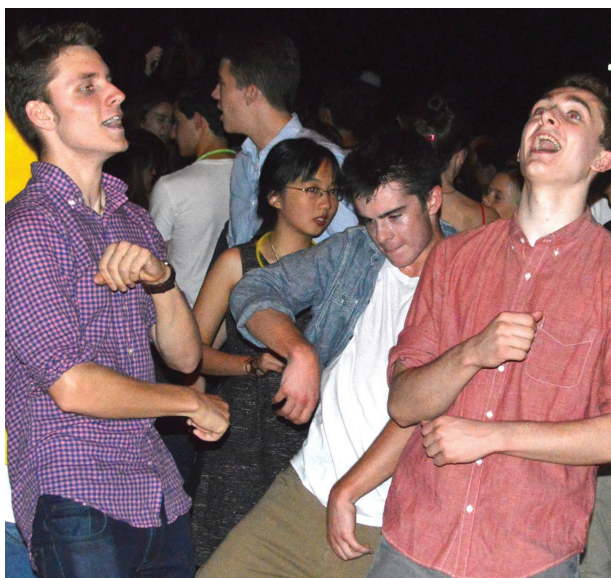


Photo by Della Brown

With the return of DJ Jamal Smallz to Homecoming October 18 at I-House, dancegoers, including Benny Friedman, Brad Koontz and Ben Rhind, proved highly energetic. FULL COVERAGE, PAGE 16.



Photo courtesy of Jim Andrews

As judges evaluate their costumes, Carl Fohran and Gabriel Guevara show off their Halloween spirit along with over a dozen other U-Highers. FULL COVERAGE, PAGE 7.



Photo by Della Brown

Determined to clear the ball from the Maroons' goal box, Nick Audrain and Avik Herur-Raman tightly defend a Solorio player in U-High's 4-0 loss October 17. FULL SPORTS COVERAGE, PAGES 13-15.



# City of Chicago, medical experts taking on Ebola

By Alex Harron  
Associate editor

“At U-High, you probably have a greater chance of getting the Bubonic Plague than getting Ebola.” So observed biology teacher Daniel Jones about the disease which in recent weeks has become a worldwide topic of conversation, concern and some confusion..

**THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE** is a deadly virus spread through the exchange of bodily fluids. Last March, the World Health Organization reported Ebola outbreaks in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Since then, there have been more than 9,200 reported Ebola cases throughout West Africa, with more than 4,500 deaths reportedly caused by the disease.

This September, Thomas Eric Duncan became the first patient to test positive for Ebola in the United States. Treated at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas, Duncan died October 8 and spread the disease to nurses Nina Pham and Amber Vinson. Ms. Vision then traveled to Cleveland on a commercial aircraft, leaving hundreds of people in quarantine.

“No one knows if Ebola will cause a serious threat to the United States,” said a Chicago medical authority who requested no further specific identification. “Ebola is different from all prior outbreaks that were successfully contained.

“**THIS IS THE FIRST** outbreak that has not responded to the kind of quarantine and containment we have provided. It has gone on longer and has caused more fatalities than any other epidemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has had to revise its guidance twice to improve quarantine, travel and treatment.”

On October 15, CDC Director Tom Frieden told reporters that Amber Vinson “should not have traveled on a commercial aircraft” after caring for Duncan. It was later revealed that a CDC official had cleared Vinson to board the Frontier Airlines flight to Cleveland because, although she reported a temperature of 99.5 degrees, it was below the

threshold set by the CDC and she had no other Ebola-like symptoms.

“In spite of all the criticism, the U.S. has done an excellent job, a Chicago medical authority told the Midway. “There are lots of people with strong opinions with no basis in evidence about what we should do. There are trade-offs to every precaution that we could take. The dollar cost and social disruption to many of the things people are advocating is staggering.”

President Barack Obama has said the American people should remain confident in the government’s ability to prevent a widespread outbreak. After the Obama administration rejected requests for a travel ban to infected countries.

“What’s now happening is all flights from those nations are being funneled into five airports,” the President said in a public statement October 22. “Each of those airports have systems in place so that all the passengers getting off those flights will be monitored.”

**WITH O’HARE INTERNATIONAL** chosen as among the five airports, many people fear this may cause an outbreak in Chicago.

“We should be screening people before they board their flight to the United States,” said the medical authority interviewed for the Midway. “Once they arrive in America and are diagnosed as sick, we will not put them on a plane and fly them back.

“Someone from Liberia may try to get around the system by flying to London or Paris first and then entering the U.S. without being screened upon arrival. We should be checking all people with passports from Ebola-stricken countries.”

**MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL** named four hospitals prepared to provide care for Ebola patients in Chicago: The University of Chicago Medical Center, Rush University Medical Center, Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital.

The medical authority questions whether hospitals around the country are adequately prepared to handle an outbreak in America.

“It is much easier to talk about quarantine than to actually perform it,” he said. “Ebola isolation takes more preparation, training and equipment than most hospitals have invested in.”

**AS FOR** the University of Chicago, a source who requested to remain unidentified, says the University of Chicago Medical Center and the University have done “a very impressive job with preparation and communication” regarding Ebola.

## Exchange students gather plenty of Windy City memories



Photo courtesy of Kellie Lu

As they explore downtown Chicago with their hosts, French exchange students Mathilde Poncelet and Victoria Baillif-Treutenaere take pictures of people and shops on Michigan Avenue. Four French exchange students, from Saint Exupéry in the town la Rochelle, arrived October 17 and left yesterday.



Photo by Loic Khodarkovsky

Outside Judd Hall, Clyde Schwab, left, and his German exchange student, Kevin Wang, decide after a school what’s next for them in town. Kevin was among three high school and five middle school students from the Königin-Katharina-Stift Gymnasium in Stuttgart, Germany who visited.

## THINK EASY, THINK CHEESY!



Photo by Della Brown

Tight for time but craving a hot lunch, Jeffrey Jou and Philip Gianfortune stop by Medici Bakery to grab fresh slices of pepperoni pizza.

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Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Van Ha

Visiting Bengston’s Pumpkin Farm in Homer Glen October 26, Nigel Van Ha, Grace Cain, center, and Argentinean exchange student Martina Artaza take a break from pumpkin picking. “I really enjoyed the people here,” Martina said, regarding U-High. “Everyone’s very kind and nice. The things you do everyday is also very different from my school. You all study a lot more.” The 10 Argentinean exchange students arrived October 18 and left November 1.

## ‘Absurd!’ brings on the laughs



Photo by Paige Fishman

In two of 11 play excerpts comprising the Fall Production, “That’s Absurd!” performed October 30-November 1, Alijah Futterman, left, and Maria Privitera aroused plentiful laughs, as did the entire cast. The show drew big audiences.





Photo by Loic Khodarkovsky

## 1962 graduate inaugurates new alumni speaker series

Returning to U-High to present the first in a planned Alumni Speaking Series October 9 at Max Palevsky Theatre, Stephen Dunham, Class of 1962, general counsel at Penn State University, recounted his experiences as a U-Higher. Several of Mr. Dunham's classmates were present for his appearances.

Among the most stirring of Mr. Dunham's recollections was his recounting of the ISL track championships, in which his team placed 2nd because a teammate lost the baton in the final relay.

The runner went on to win the Monilaw Award, the school's highest sports honor, acknowledging his disappointment in his part in the undoing of the Maroons' title chances.

"For me, Mr. Dunham's speech was among the most powerful I have ever heard," senior Michael Glick said. "Our soccer team had just lost the ISL Championship the day before, so hearing him recount a similar experience 50 years later reminded me just how powerful the memories are that we make each day. His words really struck a chord in me."

# Among 12 newly created clubs, service-based groups dominate

By Maia Boussy  
Editor-in-Chief

Pairing ham and cheese sandwiches with Capri sun pouches, 10 U-Highers in U-High 103 on a recent Monday were preparing lunches to donate to the Livingroom Café at 806 East 64th Street. They are members of the Off the Streets club, among 12 new organizations which debuted at Club Shopping September 30. The Café provides dining for homeless and poor people in a setting of dignity and respect.

Inspired by her sophomore service learning experience, Elizabeth founded Off the Streets with faculty adviser Carrie Koenen, English teacher.

"**I CREATED OFF THE STREETS** because of my experiences as a crisis liner at the National Runaway Safeline," Elizabeth said. "It made me want to raise awareness in Chicago schools because I think it's important that youth know of resources that can help them if they're going through a difficult time."

"The hot line focuses on serving at-risk, runaway and homeless youth, but also deals with issues such as child abuse, sex trafficking, drug and alcohol abuse."

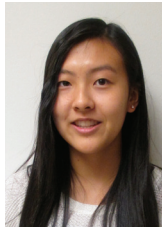
"**WHEN WE HAVE** days off from school we're going to visit Chicago Public Schools to talk to youth about runaway issues. We plan to collaborate with NRS to do a Kids Call, which is a conference call with a staff member or volunteer to relieve anxiety about calling a hot line, in case students or their friends and family are ever in need of services."

Another new service-based club is the Ronald McDonald House Club founded by senior Katie Adlaka, who learned about the charity from her parents.

"I've been involved with the charity from a young age," Katie said. "I was very surprised to see that Lab had not made a connection with a charity that is right in our immediate area. I then approached Dr. Jurisson (history teacher Cindy Jurisson) and asked her if she would be interested in establishing this new club with me to support a charity that is giving back to the Hyde Park community."

"**THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE** Charities build homes near children's hospitals. My goals for this club are to not only host fundraisers, but to also bring awareness of the Ronald McDonald House Charities to the Lab community."

Inspired by their mutual passion for investment,



Elizabeth

junior Schuler Small and sophomore Alec Kaplan created the UCLS Finance Club.

"Alec and I founded this club on the platform that we are both extremely interested in the stock market and invest on our own," Schuler said. "We knew others at Lab were interested in investing and we wanted an opportunity to spread knowledge about investing and the stock market to the rest of the school. We hope that the club will develop to increase the popularity of economics as a subject and a potential field for interested students."

"**DURING OUR** weekly meetings, we discuss various aspects of the stock market and more specifically stocks that we want to invest in. In terms of

bigger picture things, I'm currently working with the other members to develop a presentation for potential investors, which we are hoping to finish and pitch in the next few weeks."

"We're also working on creating an account to conduct investments on with the development committee at Lab with the Investment Office of the U. of C. and Ms. Appleby (Lab Schools Director Robin Appleby)."

Also motivated by community service, junior Kellie Liu started Creativity for Casual Concerns.

"C Cubed is a club in which members propose and vote on community-centered or causal focus topics, and then for a few months design and carry out a creative project centered around that topic" Kellie explained. "This year we will be going to a hospital and bringing supplies so that the patients can express themselves through art or music."

"**I'VE ALWAYS FELT** very strongly about many causes and ideas, so I decided to make a club for people like me, where we could truly make an impact by connecting and working with others. The members of C Cubed will really have a say in the direction of the club, because it is their talents and their ideas that will decide its actions."

Other new clubs—more may yet be announced—and their presidents are the following:

**Film Club**, senior Leah Rosenzweig; **Student Forum on the Middle East**, senior Julia Mearsheimer; **Chess Club**, senior Arthur Chang and junior Julien Bendelac; **Penguins for Patients**, junior Maya Daiter; **Photography Club**, sophomore Lucy Ordman; **Ready, Set, Grow**, sophomores Gabby Conforti and Paige Fishman; **Football Club**, sophomore Danny Rubin; **Thank A Soldier**, junior Autumn Espinoza.



Katie

# Academic teams get off to promising starts

By Christine Obert-Hong  
Editor-in-Chief

Placing 4th as a team, U-High Scholastic Bowl's member Adam Fine, senior, placed 1st individually at the Academic Competition Federation Fall Mirror (ACF Fall Mirror) November 8 at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

It was the fourth tournament for Scholastic Bowl this year. The captains are Adam and senior Clare Keenan.

**THE SEASON** kicked off with Earlybird at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana October 4. Adam placed 2nd and Clare placed 13th individually, while the team came in 4th.

At the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association Novice at Fenton in Bensenville October 18, the team came in 9th, while junior Harry Ni placed 15th individually.

The team and Harry both placed 3rd at Wake-Up Call October 25 at Northwestern University in Evanston.

In Scholastic Bowl, teams from two schools with five-member teams compete face-to-face in answering academic questions which come from numerous categories..

"Like, you get asked questions on everything, so we just try to know as much as possible," Adam said.

**THIS FALL** has seen significant early victories for many U-High academic competition teams.

In its first away conference November 7-9 at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, Model U.N., led by seniors Eriko Koide and Alijah Futterman, won the Best Large Delegation award.

Focusing on giving newcomers to the team more opportunities to compete, Model U.N. officers are looking to a February 28 conference at Lyons Township High School's south campus in suburban Western Springs. Intended specifically to give newcomers to Model U.N. preparation for national-level competitions, the increasingly popular event, formerly cosponsored with St. Ignatius, is in its fourth year.

Eriko and Alijah are also trying to place more emphasis on perfecting reactive speaking this year. At some conferences, they explained, some delegations may unexpectedly be required to deal with a topic reported as a crisis without any warning.

**IN THEIR MEETINGS** at school, U-High's Model U.N. members are getting experience in dealing with such unexpected challenges.

Coming up on the Model U.N. schedule are Princeton in New Jersey, this Thursday through Sunday; Harvard in Massachusetts, January 29-February 1; Northwestern in north suburban Evanston, April 9-12; and Cornell in New York state, April 16-19.

Winning recognition at a national level, Debate Team captain Luke Newell, senior, and junior Reed Rosenbacher have won bids to the Tournament of Champions April 25-27 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, widely considered the top national championship.

To receive bids, debaters must place high in prestige tournaments, Luke and Reed most recently standing out at a University of Michigan tournament November 1-3 in Ann Arbor.

There U-Highers Robert Bacon and Alina Cui, juniors, won five of their seven rounds and the team's six new novices did well.

**THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL** debate topic for this season is "Resolved: The United States Federal Government should substantially increase its exploration and or development of the Earth's oceans."

Debaters will travel to Glenbrook South in Glenview November 22-24; the John Edie Holiday Tournament sponsored by the Blake School in Minneapolis December 19-21; and California High School Speech and Debate at the University of California at Berkeley, February 14-16.

The numerous components of the U-High Science Team started preparations earlier than in some previ-

ous years.

Sub-teams and their captains include the Illinois Science Olympiad (ISO), junior Tiffany Suwatthee and senior Jay Dhanoa; Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS), seniors Raghu Somala and Justin Whitehouse; Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE), senior Walker Melton; and Envirothon, senior Tristan Acevedo.

"**FOR ISO**, people had to take at least two tryout tests to be placed on the team, with their scores determine whether they would compete on varsity or j.v.," Tiffany noted. "Similarly for WYSE, one takes two tryout tests and that determines your position on the team. For JETS there are three tryout tests."

ISO's first competition is the Harlem Invitational in Machesney Park December 13, followed by the Libertyville Invitational January 25, and Huntley Invitational February 21.

WYSE will go to its first competition at Fenwick Academy in Oak Park February 17, and JETS will be at the Illinois Institute of Technology February 27.

**IN THE** North Suburban Math League (NSML) season, U-High's Math Team came in 2nd place at its

first meet, at Hinsdale Central October 2, and came in 4th at its second meet in Conant October 30.

The NSML season consists of four regular meets and one finals meet. After the season ends, the U-Highers will proceed to the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) meets in February and May.

Math Team's next competition is at Downers Grove South December 4.

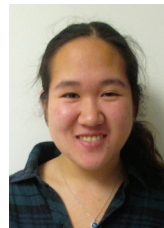
Affiliate with the Latin club, the Certamen team competed at Kenwood Academy November 4. Certamen's upper level team, composed of juniors Theodore Ando, Eve Skosey-LaLonde and Logan Young, took 3rd place. Sophomore Hazel Martello, the only member of the lower level team, took 1st place. A quiz bowl type event, "Certamen" in Latin means "competition."



Adam



Alijah



Tiffany



# Movie night caps Spirit Week

*Volleyball injury proves the week's sole low point*

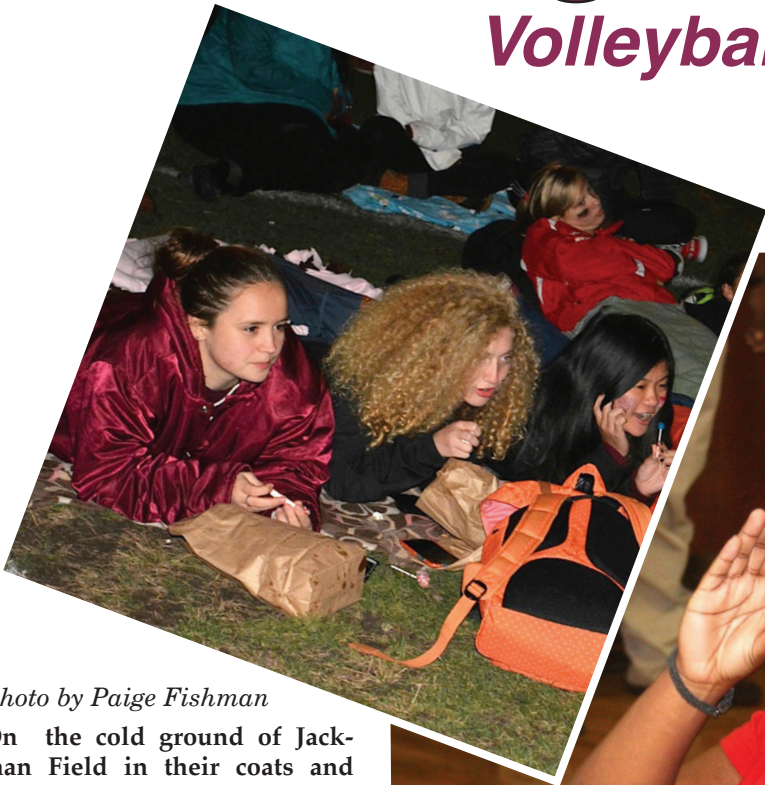


Photo by Paige Fishman

On the cold ground of Jackman Field in their coats and blankets, Jessica Franks and Lilian Nemeth get cozy and wait for the showing of "Moon Rise Kingdom," the film of choice for the first Artsfest movie night October 17, three months ahead of the event. The movie night proved a major hit. Roughly 90 students spread across Jackman eating popcorn and candy, leaving school grounds at the end of the movie at 10 p.m.



Photo by Alex Thompson

As student and faculty volleyball players warm up for their game October 16, seniors, including Kendall Rallins, Jordan Moran, George Hamilton and Glenn Decety, take in the action. The faculty ended up defeating the students by one point after the game ended due to an injury to volleyball player Tatum McCormick with several minutes left to play.



Photo by Alex Thompson

As she revs up the senior class during the Student-Faculty Volleyball Game October 16, Karla Douglas leads the grade cheer, 'All Rise, One-Five!' The cheer has proven a wild success for seniors. "As a Lab Lifer, I spent a lot of my years waiting to be a senior," Karla said. "I witnessed all the great and not so great cheers ahead of us and with my determination to make this the best year possible, I took it upon myself. When it came down to two choices for the cheer, 'All Rise, One-Five' was it."



Photo by Alex Thompson

After girls' volleyball player Tatum McCormick went down with an injury in the annual Student-Faculty Volleyball Game October 16, a group of volleyball players faculty members and security staff came to her side. The game was terminated after the injury.



Photo by Alex Thompson

Watching their first U-High Student-Faculty Volleyball Game, freshmen sport their grade's yellow clothing and headgear. The freshmen exhibited a surprising amount of class spirit, with the majority of the class wearing yellow and providing loud support at the game.



Photo by Alex Thompson

Clad in the senior class color, red, Emilie Portugal gets ready to serve in an intense ping-pong game in the Senior Lounge on grade color day October 16. Most seniors joined Emilie in wearing red.



Photo by Paige Fishman

As they unpack several bags, Artsfest committee members Emili Husain, Schuler Small and Allijah Futterman prepare to sell candy, popcorn and hot chocolate at Artsfest's movie night October 17.

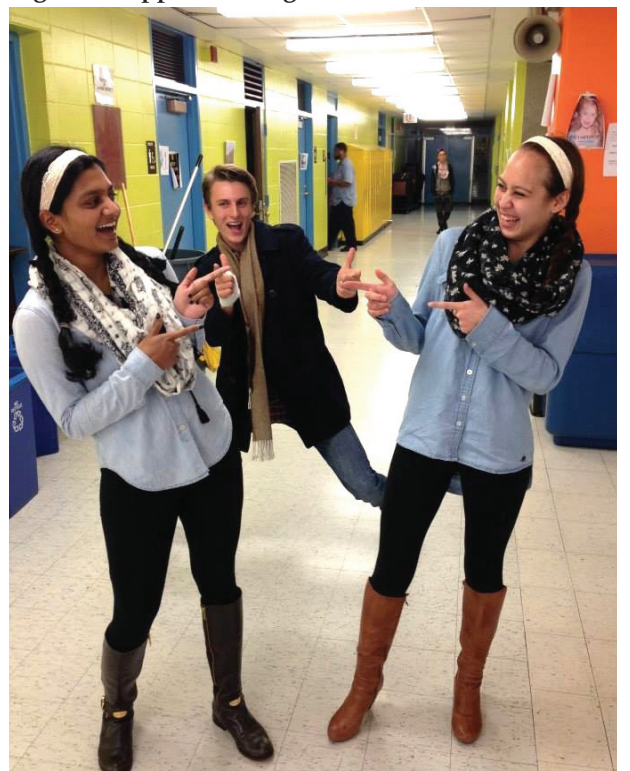


Photo by Della Brown

Coming ready for Twin Day October 14, Apoorva Gundeti and Emilie Portugal show off their matching outfits consisting of denim button downs, leather boots, scarves, white head bands and black pants.



# Katscratch.....by Kat Flocke



## Sophomore living on his own beat

By Jackie Walker  
Associate editor

Dark blue headphones with white letters hug his head of sandy blonde hair. His brown eyes stare intently at his laptop screen. Various beats and melodies play through his computer as he fiddles with different sounds, playing around with the music.

Sophomore Jacob Silverstein comes from a sports family. His little sister loves to play soccer, and his little brother is a competitive gymnast. While Jacob loves hockey, soccer and playing FIFA on the Xbox, nothing compares to his love for music.

**“I HAVE** always had a background in music,” Jacob said. “I started playing piano at around 4years old. My parents used to play Mozart when I was a baby, and when I was about 7, I started playing one of the Mozart songs by ear. I still play piano, as well as guitar.”

First introduced to electronic dance music by a friend of his in 2013, Jacob has shown increasing interest in the genre throughout the past year.

“My friend Jack introduced me to electronic dance music about a year-and-a-half ago,” Jacob said. “He showed me the program that Avicii uses, FL Studio, and we decided that we were going to compose an electronic dance song for our band. I started play-

ing around with the program on my own, though. I explored the features and eventually had a couple of different projects and I released my first album.”

**TITLED “FATE,”** Jacob’s first album features eight songs, including Jacob’s top hit, “Into the Light.” His album ranked 31st on the iTunes charts two days after it was released, April 25, 2014.

“I never even thought that it would be in the charts at all. When that happened, I went crazy. I was super excited and told all my friends. It stayed up there for about five days, and then it dropped back down. I named the album ‘Fate’ because I have played many different genres of music like classical, but electronic music is the genre that I would want to pursue a career in.”

Jacob’s song “Into the Light” takes a slower approach to the fast pace of electronic dance music. Not overwhelming like most dance music, this song is accompanied by soft, melodic vocals. As an aspiring DJ, Jacob got his influence not only from electronic dance music, but also from rock music.

**“A LOT OF DIFFERENT** artists of various genres influenced my music, from rock bands like The Beatles and Green Day, to electronic artists such as Avicii and Martin Garrix.

“I once heard a song called ‘I Could be the One,’ by



Photo courtesy of Jacob Silverstein  
As he works on his latest songs, Jacob Silverstein picks out the most promising beats for his work.

Avicii and Nicky Romero,” he continued. “I really loved how melodic it was and I started figuring out the chords on piano.

“I loved those chords so much that I used them in a different key and used a different melody and then I used that for my first song.”

**DESPITE HIS BUSY SCHEDULE,** Jacob continues to create new beats for future publication. “Currently, I have five new songs I’ve recently completed, and 12 songs that I’m working on. Though I don’t know when they’ll be released, I’m hoping my music will gain exposure and publicity.”

## Seniors continue U-High success in Siemens science competition

By Elizabeth Chon  
Associate editor

Although seniors Rajan Aggarwal and Justin Whitehouse did not make the regional rounds of the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, they were happy to be named semifinalists.

Established in 1999, the competition rewards high school students who participate in intensive research projects. Rajan and Justin were two of 12 Illinois semifinalists.

**SIEMENS RECEIVES** more than 1,500 submissions annually and selects 300 students as semifinalists or regional finalists.

Through U-High’s Summer Link Program, which offers paid summer internships to U-Highers, Rajan and Justin had the opportunity to conduct research with U. of C. professors.

“I applied to Summer Link winter quarter junior year,” Rajan said. “I wrote a paper about my area of interest, physics, because it is a mathematical science and can explain natural phenomena in a rational way.

**“I WAS MATCHED** up with Cheng Chin, a physics professor at the U. of C. I studied an alternative approach to time-of-flight laser ranging, the traditional method of determining distance with a

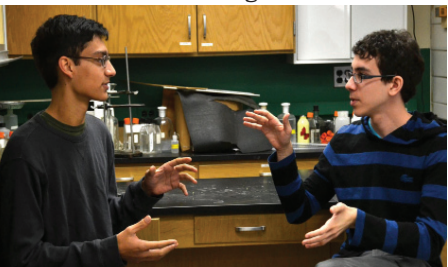


Photo by Nikita Dulin

The latest U-High scientists named Siemens semifinalists, Rajan Aggarwal and Justin Whitehouse used their Summer Link research for Siemens.

laser that requires a pulse source or a locked laser. This alternative approach is a self-driven system that replicates the accuracy and precision of the traditional approach.

“I did over 40 hours of research per week during the summer. I worked independently during the day and corresponded with my mentor every week.”

Looking for a solution to the shortage of fossil fuels, Justin conducted research on a renewable source of isobutene production.

**“I ORIGINALLY** started my research independently the summer following sophomore year, then continued researching the summer of junior year through Summer Link,” Justin said.

U. of C. associate molecular genetics and cell biology professor Lauren Mets mentored Justin as he researched an enzyme that could serve as a renewable method of producing isobutene.

“I went to the lab five days a week and stayed from nine until five, though sometimes I had to stay until eight or nine,” he said. “During the day, I would spend the mornings preparing for experiments and reading papers about procedures to get ideas for experiments. In the afternoon, I would analyze experiments from the previous days. I also had to do some maintenance on machines and work on presentations.

**“I’M STILL** uncertain about what kind of career I want to pursue, but science is definitely one of the choices I’m considering because of the significant impact it can have on the world by solving real-life problems.”

Recent U-High semifinalists include Alexandra Radway, Class of 2014; and Amartya Das and Danny Zhang, 2013. Marissa Suchyta, Class of 2010, became a national level winner, awarded a \$40,000 scholarship. In earlier decades, the school had 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place winners.

## Make your hair glow in the first snow!



Photo by Della Brown

As Rajan Aggarwal takes a seat, one of our expert stylists begins to comb through his hair.

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# LIVING REMNANT OF ANOTHER AGE

## Pullman offers trip to the past

By Clyde Schwab  
City life editor

As the Metra Electric train pulls to a stop at the 111th street Metra platform, the first thing a visitor sees is the towering, reddish-brown clock tower and the hulking brick skeletons of the Pullman factories.

The factory complex has, since the dissolution of the Pullman Company, turned to humbler purposes. A community garden lies next to hulking pieces of rusted-iron, and disc-golf targets hide among the buildings. Though the administration building is now restored, the remaining factory buildings are but boarded up shells since a fire engulfed the factory and administrative buildings in 1998.

**FOUNDED IN THE 1880S** by George Pullman, the head of the Pullman Palace Car Company and industrial superpower, the town, which was first of its kind, was created as a home for Pullman factory workers.

Designed to be self-sufficient and able to provide for all of the workers' needs, it had everything from parks and avenues for leisure time and the Arcade mall, which included a theater, restaurant and a variety of shops.

Now many of the shops owned by the Pullman Company that lined the main avenue and provided food and clothes for the workers sit empty and quiet.



Photo courtesy of Nicholas Woodruff

As tour guide and lifelong resident CJ Martello, left, explains Pullman's rich history, three locals and Clyde Schwab, second from the right, listen attentively while admiring the inside of one of Pullman's factory. Now a banquet hall, the factory previously housed Pullman cars in the process of being painted.

the neighborhood.

At the center of the historic building complex lies Arcade Park, a small area composed of concrete, benches and shrubbery bordered by Hotel Florence, an ornate Victorian hotel built in 1881 by Pullman. The hotel, which housed more than 60 rooms and included a gourmet restaurant, elegant lobby and stylish salons, remained open until 1976, when it was purchased by the Historic Pullman Foundation. For 20 years it served as amuseum, eventually closing for renovations in the early 2000s.

hind Pullman our group, which included two elderly couples who are returning to the neighborhood they grew up in. Inside the administrative building is a small banquet hall, which recently hosted the Disney Mariachi band.

**"PULLMAN'S ALWAYS BEEN** the same kind of town, but that doesn't mean that it isn't moving forward," Mr. Martello said. "People here don't necessarily feel tied to the factory, and many of the current resident's parents worked for Pullman at some point. Though neighborhood has always felt like sort of an island to me, new artists and professionals are starting to move in with the old residents still here. It's really a vibrant community.

"We were hit pretty hard by the recession. There were a lot of foreclosures because people bought investment property in Pullman at high prices and ended up losing the property because they figure that there's no sense in paying when you're already below water. But the prices have gone down now and people are starting to buy property as residents, not investors. People are realizing that it's a really nice place to live.

"And new businesses are moving in too. A big plaza just opened a few blocks down that has a Walmart, Ross, City Sports and Planet Fitness. There's also a new Method Plant down the street, a factory that makes green cleaning supplies. It's owned by a Belgian company that picked Pullman out of 150 other

choices because of it's history, and when we finally get national park status, there will be even more business coming in with millions of dollars of revenue."

**AFTER THE TOUR,** Mr. Martello invited us into his home, one of Pullman's distinctive row-houses. Though only a narrow 25 feet wide, the house contains all basic amenities. The walls are adorned with an amalgamation of various old Pullman-related posters, memorabilia and thrift shop finds. The whole

thing pops out in front of the original structure, which has stayed the same.

Next, we walked a few blocks down to the Historic Pullman Foundation museum. A grey cinder block cube, it sits across from the Hotel Florence and bears a stark contrast to the Victorian architecture that surrounds it. The museum, a jumble of history, showcases old train car posters, antique bed boards, original Pullman car furnishings and various drawings of historic buildings.

**"IT'S JUST** a typical Chicago neighborhood," observed Jeanne Schulman, the friendly museum administrator sitting behind the front desk. "There's a very big mix of people here, people from all sorts levels. We have doctors and lawyers and people who live on welfare. Sure, we have a lot of people whose families have been here for generations, but we have new residents who've moved here just 10 or 20 years ago, which for us is new. I think that it's the people that really define this neighborhood.

"We live in and around all these old, historic buildings, but that isn't what defines us. It isn't the 1880s anymore when the town just sprang up out of the dirt, and there isn't even much of a bearing on the factory any more for the neighborhood."

In a brochure she wrote she added, "We enjoy a richness of history and architecture, but we are not 'a town locked in time.' We are a living, breathing, close knit contemporary community."

**Historic Pullman** Foundation president, Mike Shymanski, explained the efforts made in the preservation of Pullman.

**"I WAS FIRST** drawn to Pullman because I was interested in city planning," Mr. Shymanski said.. "I was finishing my masters in urban planning and I was about to get married, so when I saw Pullman, a diverse neighborhood racially and socio-economically, I really liked it."

And he isn't wrong. According to the 2010 census, the neighborhood is about 30 percent black, 30 Hispanic and 40 white (though the surrounding area is almost entirely black) with a \$43,000 average household income.

Mr. Shymanski grew up in northern Pennsylvania and studied architecture and city planning at the Illinois Institute of Technology. A retired architect, he moved to Pullman in 1967 and now works volunteers at the Historic Pullman Foundation, started in 1974.

"The major mission is to preserve and promote the Pullman Historic district. There are 150 years of American history in Pullman, the people and the town. are strongly advocating for it as a national park system, which is a big part of (continues on opposite page)



Photo courtesy of Benji Wittenbrink

Part of Chicago-based artist Mark Hoffman's "You Are Beautiful" Project, the "Go For It" installation was created in Pullman's historic Market Hall area in early August and stands in stark contrast with the aging brick that surrounds it.

**AFTER A NATIONWIDE** strike in 1894 and a decision from the Illinois Supreme Court that forced the company to sell the town to private citizens, the neighborhood was absorbed by the City of Chicago. While the company continued through various offshoots and buy-outs, the neighborhood began to gradually decline in the 1950s with decline of the railroad industry, but gained national and state landmark status in 1972.

Easily reached by the Metra Electric line, Pullman is bounded by 103rd street and 115th street and the railroad to the east and Cottage Grove to the west. Street parking is available throughout

**THE NEIGHBORHOOD,** unique in its history, gives off a sense of timelessness among the aged buildings, as though while so much has changed, the heart of the community has remained consistent in its working class background and pride.

On a recent brisk, sunny Sunday morning, Benji Wittenbrink and Nicky Woodruff and this reporter approached the gate to the enormous factory complex to begin our tour of Pullman. We were greeted by our guide, CJ Martello, an enthusiastic lifelong resident.

As he guided us through the factory yard he explained the rich history be-



Photo courtesy of Benji Wittenbrink

Hotel Florence, built in 1880 in the Queen Anne style by George Pullman, retains its grandeur, though the adjacent streetcar line to Chicago is long gone. Now closed for renovations, the hotel operated until 1976, when it was sold and reopened as museum space.



# From superheroines to peapods and carrots



Photo courtesy of Jim Andrews

Student Council’s annual Halloween costume contest October 31 in the cafeteria during lunch, was presented with hilarious commentary by Charlotte Elfenbaum because she dressed as television host Ellen Degeneres. Most of the participants dressed as film or television characters. Among characters from the animated films including “Up” and “The Incredibles,” and television shows were a peapod and carrot, Crazy Eyes from the comedy-drama “Orange is the New Black,” Frances Bacon the bacon superhero, a dead man, Maleficent, Cleopatra, Tina Belcher from the animated sitcom “Bob’s Burgers” and a Spy and Sniper from the team-based multiplayer video game “Team Fortress 2.” Fikayo Walter-Johnson, as Crazy Eyes, won 1st place, “Up” characters came in 2nd, and Jax Ingrassia and Madeline Sachs, “The Incredibles” duo, came in 3rd. The winners were given candy as their prize.



Photo by Loïc Khodarkovsky

Showing off her painted-on eyes, Eleanor Grosse dressed as one of the figures in Picasso’s “African Period.” Ellie Roussos also dressed up as a Picasso figure.



Photo courtesy of Christine Obert-Hong

Clad in a Big Bird costume, which he also wore to Homecoming, Edward Litwin joins Lucas Fagan, a bunny, in the Senior Lounge for a few games on the Xbox.



In a biology room (top photo), Olivia Perozo strikes a pose in her Black Widow costume. The character, one of Marvel Comics’ most well-known superheroines, is a deadly assassin.

In their advisory (bottom photo) Isabella Pon, Mikal Muhammad and Catherine Eng enjoy Halloween candy. In homemade costumes, they came as Tinker Bell, a bandit from the Wild West, and a bacon superhero. Halloween pervaded advisories. Both photos courtesy of Christine Obert-Hong.



Reenacting a scene from Pixar’s animated film “Up” (top photo), Clara de Pablo, Miranda Scarlata and Eriko Koide (not in photo) decided to dress as Russell, Carl and Kevin from Pixar’s “Up.”

This colorful tasty vegetable trio (bottom photo) includes Della Brown, Gabriel Guevara and Wyatt Dandy as a carrot, a pea pod and a corn cob. They got a big reaction. Top photo courtesy of Clara de Pablo. Bottom photo courtesy of Christine Obert-Hong.



Photo by Mary Brady

After performing for the Lower School Halloween Parade in Earl Shapiro Hall, U-High Jazz Band members, including Elbert Du and Hayward Melton, reflect on the enthusiastic reception they received.



Photo by Loïc Khodarkovsky

Helping a child dressed as Batman, Sofie Rosenzweig teaches him how to make origami flowers at Bizaarnival Saturday, October 25. The event provides a safe Halloween alternative for children. Many U-Highers volunteered for the annual festival, which drew the usual large throng to Sunny Gym.

## Historic Pullman

(continued from page 6)

the work we’re doing now. We’ve gone to Washington, supporting bills introduced in the House and Senate that advocate for national parks and we’ve gotten thousands of signatures in our favor.”

**AFTER GOING** through the museum, we stop by the Cal-Harbor Restaurant, the local greasy spoon diner and one of the few local restaurants. The smell and sizzle of bacon and eggs greet my arrival. Small and plain, the diner provides delicious but cheap omelettes, pancakes and other classics. The place is about half full, so there isn’t any bustle and nothing seems hurried.

The manager, Robbie Kuntz, stands at the back issuing orders and flipping bacon. Subdued but casual, he sits down with me to talk about the restaurant with a soft southern accent.

“I’m from down south. I came down

here a couple years ago and I’ve been here for about four since when I married the owner’s daughter. I used to be a mechanic, but when I came down here he gave me the ins and outs of the trade. He’s owned the place for about 40 years now, but it used to be a few blocks down. It’s a very local place, but we do get people who come from out of state to come eat here on the weekends.

**“I LIVE JUST** four houses down three years now. I like the neighborhood, the history is pretty cool, but it would be pretty nice if they rebuilt some of it. We haven’t really been involved in any of the restoration efforts, and the owner’s more focused on the restaurant.

“I figure that if you got something that works, keep it that way. We just want to keep it a small family owned business. We’ve been doing that for 40 years, so I figure we’ll do it for 40 more.”



Pullman’s distinctive Market Hall, much of it long gone though remnants can still be seen, glowed on snowy wintry days.







# CONTEMPORARY COMPLICATIONS: A town in trouble, a qu

## A small suburban town in Missouri gets a violent awakening on black and white

By Grace Anderson  
In-depth news editor

Sparked memories.

According to Director of Operations Fountain Walker, recent outcries in Ferguson, Missouri following the death of unarmed Michael Brown, shot by a police officer, have proliferated because of past injustices never addressed.

**JUST AFTER NOON** Saturday, August 9, Michael Brown, 18-year-old African-American, was strolling down the middle of a Ferguson street with his friend Dorian Johnson. Brown had graduated from Normandy High School, where he was a football player, and was to Vatterott College in two days. He was headed to his grandmother's house. It was later discovered that Brown stole a pack of cigarillos from a Ferguson market and liquor store shortly before his death.. A white police officer, possibly unaware of Brown's recent robbery, drove up to the boys and asked them to move to the sidewalk.

A struggle between Brown and the officer ensued, resulting in a single shot fired from the officer's gun. Brown and Johnson raced off in opposite directions. Eyewitnesses disagree as to whether Brown's hands were raised before the officer then shot him six times. The officer stated that he was forced into action, as Brown, allegedly, had injured him and attempted to grab his gun before running away and not halting..

On the night of August 10, a candle vigil held for Brown near the street where the shooting occurred turned violent as a small group of vigil attendees looted surrounding stores, vandalized vehicles, and set fire to a gas station. The Ferguson police force arrested more than 30 people, while suffering several injured officers. As violent protests continued, Ferguson police force used tear gas and rubber bullets to contain the crowd.

**STARTING MONDAY**, August 12, protesters marched outside Clayton, the county seat, and many shouted or carried signs that read, "Hands up! Don't shoot!" The Ferguson Police released Brown's autopsy and that he had no major criminal record. The autopsy determined Brown was shot six times, including once through the head, and that it was unlikely that the bullets were fired on a close range.

The Justice Department opened a federal civil rights case on August 13. The same day,

President Obama made formal remarks from Washington DC, expressing the importance of remaining non-violent and looking for community understanding. The President chose not to travel to Ferguson, instead sending Attorney General Eric Holder.

Ferguson's Police Force named Darren Wilson as Brown's shooter on August 15th. However, the police simultaneously released that Brown was a suspect in the nearby robbery case. Protesters took to the streets once more and rallied near the QuikTrip, a local convenience store, and looted the Ferguson Market and Liquor Store.

**GOVERNOR NIXON RETURNED** to Ferguson with the National Guard in order to quell protests, imposing a state of emergency. A Grand Jury began investigating whether or not to charge Wilson with the death of Michael Brown. Wilson himself was not required to appear but chose to cooperate and testified for nearly 4 hours.

Brown's funeral was held on August 26 and due to requests from the family, there were no protests that day. Since this summer, protests in Ferguson have continued, some peaceful and some violent. Even those residents and business owners in support of the protesters cause have grown tired of the constant conflict. Tensions are particularly high lately as the city prepares to hear the Grand Jury's verdict on Brown's case, which was not released as of Midway press. Brown's family also testified at the UN last Tuesday in an attempt to find answers.

The implications of the Ferguson events have not been felt solely in Ferguson. Communities across the country have taken clear stances on the issue.

**AS MR. WALKER** sat on a wooden bench outside the Maintenance Office, he explained why he thinks memories are part of the cause for the conflict in Ferguson.

"From what my impressions are," said Mr. Walker, "When an incident like Michael Brown's death occurs it sometimes brings back people's memories of incidents that occurred in their past or history that they have not forgotten or gotten over. This type of incident can be like a spark that makes people realize that we need to say something and do something about a problem."

"The internet and social media are also a huge part of how the situation in Ferguson escalated so quickly. The information that used to take a month to reach people is now available in 10 seconds. Also, since social justice is one of the topics at the forefront of our society, more people are likely to participate since they have access through the media."

**MR. WALKER** continued to describe the measures he would take in a situation simi-



Art by Kat Flocke

lar to the one in Ferguson.

"First and foremost its important to speak with the stakeholders before hand if there is an opportunity to do so. If you're able talk to the coordinators and enlist their assistance in the process then you can make use of self-policing and minimize the potential of altercations. It's also important that the police remember their role. They are there to protect people so they can say what they need to say, but they are also there to make sure those protesters remain civil."

(continues on page 14)

## A new dress code for U-High has students asking 'why'

By Marissa Martinez  
Associate editor

For years, U-High administrators have struggled to perfect the dress code described in the Student Handbook. When faculty reviewed the code this summer, students responded to the resultingly revised dress code with mixed feelings.

Dress codes have become the target of discussions in high schools across the nation, a phenomenon which seems to occur in cycles.

**INCREASINGLY, THE MEDIA** have explored how school officials handle more conservative dress codes. According to ABC News, a 15-year-old girl attending Oakleaf High School in Orange Park, Florida, was forced by teachers to wear a "shame suit" that included red sweatpants and a neon-yellow T-shirt that read "DRESS CODE VIOLATION" instead of receiving the other repercussions, such as an in-school-suspension, outlined in the school handbook. In March, a legging ban in a middle school in north suburban Evanston also raised national attention. Girls attending Haven Middle

School were told to not wear leggings or yoga pants because school administrators deemed them "too distracting to boys," according to the Evanston Review, a Chicago Sun-Times publication.

U-Highers do not see a direct parallel between their circumstances and the extreme examples of dress code discrepancies across the natio. However, they do feel that some areas of U-High's policies need revision.

Junior Helen He believes that dress codes in general enforce a double standard between girls and boys.

"I UNDERSTAND the need for appropriateness," Helen said. "But banning pieces like tank tops with spaghetti straps promotes the idea that every part of the female body should be covered, even parts as normal as shoulders. The dress code hardly mentions anything about the way guys dress, and I've seen some wear muscle tees that show more than any tank top would show. The dress code subtly upholds an imbalance that girls should be the ones to change to keep from taking boy's attention away

from school.

"I think that there should be a committee of younger staff members, male and female, who decide what is appropriate for school. It might not be any better, but they might have a better sense about the lines between what is suitable for school and what is an example of a double standard."

While reviewing the U-High Handbook, Dean of Students Ana Campos and the faculty committee discussed the dress code and took into account what parameters other schools and places of business have in place. The committee included Kevin Van Eron, Daniel Calleri, Laura Damer, Shirley Volk, Melissa Warehall and Patty Kovacs.

"**ONE OF THE THINGS** we did is briefly look at what other schools and places of business do," Ms. Campos said. "In the handbook, we included a list of examples of what is acceptable to wear, along with what isn't acceptable. As I was finishing up the updates after school ended, I read about how the emphasis in a dress code is typically on the clothing being a distraction to others, but shouldn't we consider the distraction to oneself? If it distracts the wearer, then it isn't conducive to the learning environment in the

(continues on page 14)



# Question of appearances, two fights for cultural dignity



## A compact history of the word 'Redskins'

Though disputed, most etymologists attribute the origin of the term "redskin" to early colonization in the Americas. Even though many European primary sources include Native Americans using the term, it is broadly considered to be antiquated and deeply derogatory. There is also a controversial theory that "redskins" was used originally as a reference to Native American scalps for which the English crown paid a bounty.

## Student newspaper editors ban school mascot name, administrators strike back

By Luke Murphy  
Associate editor

The expectation within a High School is that adults set an ethical precedent for students to follow.

We are taught right and wrong, and reared in hopes that one day we will contribute to society, becoming individuals that understand the importance of respect no matter the recipient. This is the ideal. Unfortunately the ideal is not always met.

Neshaminy High School, located in the small town of Langhorne, Pennsylvania has a rich history of solid academics, and athletic prowess, found namely in its football team.

**THE SCHOOL'S MASCOT**, the Redskins, represents a 'tribute' to the Native Americans who once called the land surrounding the high school home.

The mascot is emblazoned in the identity of Neshaminy High School, with the Principal's newsletter dubbed the "Redskin Rumbblings" and the words "Time will never dim the glory of the Neshaminy Redskins" proudly stamped atop the doorway to the cocurricular office.

However, earlier this month, members of "The Playwickian," the school's monthly newspaper, voted to ban the word "Redskin" from the publication.

Outrage ensued.

**PRINCIPAL RON MCGEE** and superintendent Robert Copeland delivered the verdict of a suspension for editor-in-chief Gillian McGoldrick for about a week in September and faculty adviser Tara Huber for two days, in addition to a \$1,200 docking from the paper's funding account.

McGee now requires the paper be submitted to him 10 days before its publication so that he can examine it thoroughly and to his satisfaction. All this because a group of High Schoolers decided they no longer wanted to print a racial slur in their newspaper.

"We didn't know this would be a big firestorm," McGoldrick told the Columbia Journalism Review. "Our intention was to passively protest our mascot. At the beginning of the year, students were ripping up the papers and throwing them in the hallway, saying they were going to take them home and light them on fire."

**HUBER SAID SHE** was told she was suspended for "willful neglect of duties and insubordination."

Within a nine-page proposed board policy change the following appeared, "The term "Redskins" when referring to the School District mascot and when used to express the

writer's viewpoint about the term shall not be constructed as a racial or ethnic slur and is not intended by the Board of School Directors as a racial or ethnic slur. Consequently, no student or school official or employee shall censor or prohibit use of the term or of an article or editorial that has been submitted that contains the word and where the word is used in a positive manner."

Tell half-Cherokee, half-Choctaw Langhorne resident Donna Fann-Boyle, who for the past 10 years has urged the school board to discontinue the use of 'Redskin' as the school's mascot, that 'Redskin' isn't a slur.

Why? Because they said so.

**TRADITION AND INTENT** are wielded in arguments of these sorts by defenders of the use of the word Redskin. Either the mascot has become so entrenched in the school's tradition that it's come to represent something entirely new and is therefore permissible or "it wasn't meant to hurt anyone". Maybe, one may venture, it was meant as homage.

There is doubtlessly validity in these arguments. Yet, the bottom line remains that if it offends anybody these arguments should be rendered moot. You can have the purest intentions in the world, but if pain is the outcome it is a tradition not worth continuing.



Michael Glick, in his second year as a Midway editor-in-chief, believes any high school student newspaper must remain just that.

**"I THINK** in this particular circumstance we actually have more of an issue of freedom of 'un-speech' than freedom of speech. Something that any newspaper has to deal with is that administration overhead would like to impose some of their values onto the newspaper.

"I think especially in a private school like ours we really have to be good about finding that balance between what administrators want and what the right way to approach things journalistically are. It gets harder though when you are talking about a public school like Neshaminy because the government and school board can get a say in things. We don't see that nearly as much here.

"Kids should not feel the need to put the word 'Redskins' in the newspaper just because the school chose it as its mascot a long time ago. I understand there is tradition. The bottom line is we need to be understanding that if some people have a problem with a name we give something or believe there is a racial undertone, we need to be considerate of that. If it is offensive to anyone we shouldn't be doing it."

## Why the 'People of Color' Conference succeeds

By Elizabeth Chon  
Associate editor

With an aim to cultivate leadership and discuss issues concerning racial diversity, nine Lab Schools teachers and administrators will attend the 27th annual People of Color Conference, and eight U-High students will attend the concurrent Student Diversity Leadership Conference Thursday-Saturday, December 4-6 at the JW Marriott Conference Center in Indianapolis.

Sponsored by the National Association of Independent Schools, the conference will engage participants in dialogue sessions and workshops that facilitate discussion about racial issues affecting society as well as minority students' roles in independent schools.

**SIX SPEAKERS** will also share their individual experiences as minorities living in the U.S., including Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and immigration activist Jose Antonio Vargas. This year's theme, "Pit Stops and Victory Laps," a reference to the Indianapolis 500 automobile race, examines how students measure progress towards equality in their communities.

Faculty members selected U-High applicants who demon-

strated academic excellence and outstanding character based on essays and letters of recommendation.

Having a long-standing interest in race and diversity, junior Kellie Lu, one of the selected U-Highers, became interested in attending the conference after hearing positive comments from former attendees.

**"SINCE I WAS YOUNG**, I have been interested in issues about racial identity," she said. "It's a topic that isn't discussed much at school, so "I've always wondered about how other people view race. I'm looking forward to talking about diversity and listening to other students' perspectives and ideas.

"I heard about the People of Color Conference from my friends Loren Sosnick, who graduated last year, and Marissa Martinez, who's a sophomore. "They recommended it to me because the experience was eye-opening; they met students from all different backgrounds and had the opportunity to listen to their individual opinions on race and identity."

When Marissa attended last year's conference, hearing about other students' personal lives made

the experience meaningful and memorable.

**"POCC WAS** one of the best experiences," she said. "I think the reason it's so successful is because everyone is open-minded and willing to share parts of their life stories," she explained. "It was really interesting to hear different perspectives on many social identifiers.

"I recommended it to Kellie because I believe that it's an immersion into a tolerant environment, and everyone should experience that kind of openness at least once in their lifetime. I was honored to be chosen as a freshman and if I could, I would go every year to meet new, like-minded people."

Junior Caleb Hill, another delegate this year, looks forward to hearing other students' opinions not only on diversity, but success as well.

"One of my goals is to gauge how others measure success and put that all into perspective as opposed to only having the 'Lab School mentality,'" he said. "Ms. Campos offered me the opportunity to at-

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Editorial cartoon by Kat Flocke

## As the Midway sees it

### College bug bites underclassmen

As seniors finish their college applications and juniors begin taking college entrance exams, underclassmen have also begun the college process, albeit in a different way.

Nearly every college stresses a “holistic” application review process, encouraging students to take rigorous classes and take on leadership roles on teams and clubs. This model is not new. However, U-Highers have responded to colleges’ suggestions quite differently in recent years.

Hoping to prove themselves top students, many freshmen and sophomores enroll in every advanced course, including 3A language, AAAT for math and AT history classes. Many of the underclassmen, especially those with college-application-savvy older siblings, determine their classes for all four years on day one. They squeeze in their required art and music requirements early on to ensure they can take every advanced elective in their last two years.

However, many students find the advanced track does not fit their learning styles. Instead of choosing classes for themselves, they choose them with college admissions in mind. “I don’t think leadership or extracurricular activities are stressed as much right now as good grades,” sophomore Jonathan Lipman said. “In general, I think people just take

### Weekends hardly providing a break for busy U-Highers

Whether it’s debate or Model U.N., athletics or theater, family dinners or picnics at the Point, U-Highers stay busy during weekends.

U-Highers have always been active. Yet, many teachers give greater amounts of homework to students over the two-day “break” because, from students’ perspective, they feel they have more time to complete the work.

Some U-Highers, including senior Jeffrey Jou, feel their weekend workload only partially sets them back on weekends.

“You do sort of plan around your workload,” Jeffrey said. “Some weekends, everything overlaps. But by Wednesday you’re back to the normal routine.”

the hard classes for college. Obviously, there are exceptions to that. But for the most part, you hear kids in the hallway or your parents or teachers talking about how a class like calculus is so great.

“It’s an accumulation of factors that add up to make you take harder classes.”

For juniors, good grades in rigorous courses and participation in a variety of activities prove equally important.

When juniors hear that Harvard, Yale and Princeton want students who have demonstrated leadership, they create clubs in a frenzy. The number of clubs has increased substantially over the past two years. This should come as no surprise considering that just about every kid seeks a leadership role.

“Everybody does things to make their college app look better,” junior Harry Ni said. “I guess there are some kids who have been in a club since freshman year and actually care about it. But I don’t think most kids create clubs or take on leadership roles with genuine intentions.”

Students have every right to create clubs. They have every right to challenge themselves by taking rigorous courses. Yet, underclassmen shouldn’t fret about college. Neither should first quarter juniors.

The stress will come later.

Other U-Highers, including senior Maddi Ross, feel some teachers abuse weekends, especially long weekends.

“Teachers don’t really acknowledge how much work we have, especially with college apps,” Maddi said. “I think we should have a dialogue. There’s a sense of, ‘Oh, you have a long weekend. I’ll give you extra work.’ That ends up taking away our long weekends.”

For some U-Highers, weekend workloads have proven just fine. Others who struggle to evade the stress of the daily grind, however, deserve to have a discussion about the issue with faculty and administrators at the very least. It’s time we have that talk.

## Something for U-High to celebrate: advisory

By Mike Glick  
Opinion columnist

When U-High administrators instituted the four-year advisory program in 2011, students reacted with wariness and hesitancy.

The program seemed especially annoying for juniors and seniors, as it eliminated precious free time and forced them into a four-year commitment to advisory.

While the change initially warranted students’ gripes, most students have found their advisories an important base throughout their years at U-High. For some students, advisory means a free donut or muffin. For others, it means a chance to vent their issues from morning classes.

Each advisory works in its own way, but the end result remains the same: the students come to share a unique bond.

As the third kid of three to attend U-High in my family, I had already heard countless complaints about the revisions to the advisory program. My sister, Class of 2010, raved about having a mailbox instead of advisory during her junior and senior years. My brother, Class of 2013, initially lamented the fact that the changes most directly affected his class, juniors at the time of the program’s institution.

Looking back now, I have to say that my brother and I were the lucky ones. My advisory mates and I cheer each other on at our sporting events. We go to one another’s club events. In essence, we have taken our 50 minutes per week and morphed them into 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

And my experience isn’t unique. Walk into any U-High classroom at 10:30 a.m. on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, and you’ll see that the advisory program has indeed proven a success.

We’ve overcome the growing pains. The advisory program has come to stay, and that’s something to celebrate.



Mike

## Midway Mailbox

### Diversity? Let’s have a real conversation about that

From Maryam Alausa, senior:

In a class composed entirely of seniors, talk about college is inevitable.

While attempting to listen to my chemistry teacher’s lecture about orbitals, my eyes were drawn to one of my classmate’s copy of the class of 2015 profile, hot off the press. I decided to look on with him. I noticed two categories with two very different numbers. National Merit Semifinalists (an award for high PSAT scores): 16. National Achievement Semifinalists (an award for black students with high PSAT scores): 2.

Why had only two black students qualified? I jotted down the names of all of the black seniors I could think of on the lab table in front of me. I counted 14. Another classmate noticed my confusion and anger, so in attempt to console me, she made a comment about Affirmative Action, insinuating that it served little purpose and was unfair to white students.

**MANY OF MY CLASSMATES** joined in, arguing that in the college admissions process, every student should be evaluated solely on merit, but I wondered how this could be possible in a society in which merit is so closely correlated with privilege. We all get so consumed in finding the magical equation of getting into x college, and while no one has found the equation yet, some think they’ve found the largest part of it: race.

My classmates deemed my arguments invalid, but they can’t contest statistics. On the SAT, the average black student scores below 70-80 percent of white students of the same age. These statistics are not indicative of a society based on merit.

In my chemistry, in which I’m the only black student, my arguments were largely dismissed. But throughout my years at Lab, I’ve grown used to dismissive treatment of issues surrounding race, gender and class.

**HAVING THIS DISCUSSION** with my peers about Affirmative Action only opened my eyes further to our failure as a community to discuss some of the most important issues related to diversity at Lab. Even while having a discussion about the race factor in college admissions with some of my peers, I could tell some were shying away from engaging in the discussion any further.

I was surprised that I even had the chance to discuss race with people outside a DICE workshop, one of the only spaces at Lab that has been conducive to the conversations teachers, students and administrators avoid. The idea of “diversity at Lab” on paper always boils down to “we have x amount of students of color” or “we have x percent affiliation with the University,” proudly printed in our magazines and newsletters (and of course, accompanied by a picture of me or one of the other 14 black students in my grade).

Are we embracing diversity of thought and perspective by shying away from sensitive discussion, by reading the same types of literature in English classes, by avoiding topics that may spark controversy? I certainly don’t think so. Lab is on an upward trend in terms of its dedication to diversity, but shying away from difficult conversations and ignoring unpopular perspectives is impeding this growth and hurting our community.



Maryam

## Quick Q

What are you most thankful for this Thanksgiving?



Rajan

**RAJAN AGGARWAL, senior:** Seahawks, Niners. Enough said.

**ELIZABETH STOLZE, junior:** I am most thankful for my great aunt, who is traveling in from Detroit. I’m also thankful for the friends who will be joining my family as well. They always remind me of all of the great things I have and I look forward to it every year.



Elizabeth

**ELSA ERLING, sophomore:** My family and friends for obvious reasons. Also, the fact that most of my problems have to do with stress from homework and tests and not finding a place to sleep or getting enough to eat.



Elsa

**MATT ATASSI, freshman:** I’m grateful to be around my family and spend time with them over the holiday. Other people unfortunately don’t get the same privilege and I’m thankful that I do.



Matt

—Compiled by Mike Glick

Please write us! If you have an opinion on any story you read let us know. We want to hear from you!



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NBC.com

After traveling to Chicago in search of a blues record that supposedly recorded the devil's voice, John Constantine (Matt Ryan) finds himself captured by voodoo priest Papa Midnite (Michael James Shaw) in NBC's "Constantine."

## Supernatural T.V. shows not necessarily super

By Christine Obert-Hong  
Television critic

With competition in the horror genre, such as "The Walking Dead" or "Supernatural," new television shows will need to step up their game.

After following a trail of cockroaches down a dimly-lit asylum hallway and



Christine

coming across a possessed patient, self-proclaimed exorcist John Constantine (Matt Ryan) finds himself thrown into the role of a reluctant supernatural detective in NBC's "Constantine."

With the intent to fully introduce Constantine's world of exorcism, the premiere was packed to the brim with information. Shows involving demons and possessions generally instill a greater sense of dread into the viewer when it follows a slow pace, but the premieres fast pace left any possible feelings of fear or urgency dulled.

Making up for this slight disappointment, Ryan perfectly captures Constantine's character. Haunted by the memories of an exorcism gone horri-

bly wrong, and poor at dealing with guilt, Constantine constantly makes snarky remarks. Ryan, who previously starred in shows "Torchwood" and "Criminal Minds," gives the sensation of whiplash with how quickly he's able to switch between self-loathing and sarcastic wit.

With "Supernatural," "The Dresden Files" and "Grimm" airing at the same time as "Constantine," there's no telling whether this new show will be able to stand out from the crowd.

Another new series in the horror genre, Syfy's "Z Nation," takes place three years after a zombie virus hits the U.S. It follows a group of survivors escorting an antibody-carrying civilian from New York to California, where the last functioning viral lab waits for his blood in order to make a vaccine.

Surprising viewers with the sudden deaths of major characters, even in the opening show, "Z Nation" has the potential to stand out on its own. "Z Nation" zombies, like those in the horror films "28 Days Later" and "World War Z," run after the living in heart-pounding scenes.

## Sweet and homey treat can add surprise to holiday traditions

By Ariel Gans  
Food columnist

Traditional Thanksgiving flavors are transformed in a deliciously moist Southern take on corn bread.

Becoming popular in the early 20th century, cheddar-corn spoon bread's sharp cheddar cheese, sweet corn and savory butter come together to create a rich, soufflé-like texture without the hassle.

Soft enough to serve with a spoon, this classic side dish does not store well and tastes best if made the day of your meal. However, cheddar-corn spoon bread makes for a delicious complement to turkey and is easily doubled or tripled to serve a crowd.

The following portion serves six people and takes in total about an hour to make. If desired, add a pinch of cayenne pepper for an extra tasty twist.

Here's what you'll need:

- 2 cups milk
- 4 eggs
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 ½ cups corn kernels
- 2/3 cup yellow cornmeal
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/3 cup sharp white cheddar

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a medium saucepan, mix together the butter, milk, corn, cornmeal and salt. Bring to a boil and turn down heat until at a medium simmer. Stir for 3-4 minutes until thickened.

Then remove saucepan from heat and stir in cheese.

Allow 15 minutes to cool. Separate



Photo by Mary Brady

This cheesy spoon bread makes a perfect complement to Thanksgiving dinner, says columnist Ariel Gans.

and stir in cheese.

Allow 15 minutes to cool. Separate the eggs and stir yolks into mixture. In a separate mixing bowl, beat egg whites and salt together until soft. Then, using a rubber spatula, pour egg whites into cornmeal mixture and stir until well-blended. Pour mixture into buttered 2-quart baking dish (the smaller the better) and place in oven.

Finally, bake for 25-30 minutes until browned on top and slightly loose in center. Let cool for 5 minutes and serve warm. Pair leftovers with chili for a hearty cold-weather snack.

## Be careful of the games you play

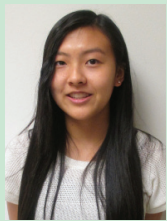
By Elizabeth Chon  
Film critic

\$19.99 is all you need to awaken a vengeful spirit.

Based on Hasbro Inc.'s Ouija board, a spirit board for séances yet sold in toy stores, "Ouija" follows five high school students as they play with the board to communicate with the spirit of their dead friend, Debbie.

First introduced by businessman Elijah Bond in 1890, the Ouija board was used as a harmless parlor game. However, it gained popularity during World War I when American spiritualist Pearl Curran advertised its function as a divining mechanism.

WHEN HIGH SCHOOL student Debbie Galardi (Shelley Hennig) plays with a Ouija board while home alone, her corpse is found later that night hanging from Christmas lights. Though it appears to be a suicide, Debbie's best friend Laine Morris (Olivia Cooke) appears skeptical.



Elizabeth

After Morris finds the Ouija board in Debbie's bedroom, she convinces her younger sister Sarah (Ana Coto), boyfriend Trevor (Daren Kagasoff) and friends Isabelle (Bianca Santos) and Pete (Douglas Smith) to join her for a séance, hoping to hear Debbie's side of the story.

Seated around Debbie's dining table near the spot where she died, the teenagers place their fingers on a wooden planchette, allowing the spirit to spell out her message on the Ouija board. "Hi friend," she begins.

BUT AS THE SPIRIT terrorizes them during ensuing days, Morris



rogerebert.com

After the death of her childhood friend, Laine (Olivia Cooke) convinces her friends to help use a Ouija board to try and contact her friend's spirit.

and the others question the identity of the spirit.

As the spirit (spoiler alert) sews Laine's friends' mouths shut and shifts objects around to startle the teenagers, "Ouija" utilizes a variety of scare devices, from jump scares to frightening corpses. Dark silence is shattered by shrill screams and blinding light illuminates the spirit.

The setting, a Victorian house with a creaky staircase and antique chandeliers emitting low light, provides a gloomy atmosphere resembling that of a haunted house.

ORIGINALLY, UNIVERSAL Pictures abandoned "Ouija" because of a high budget, but returned to it six months later, assigning experienced horror filmmakers Stiles White and Juliet Snowden to revamp the idea.

Cooke is best known for her roles in science-fiction film "The Signal" and horror film "The Quiet Ones," as well as "Bates Motel," a hit-Psycho prequel television show. Starring as an intelligent college student in "The Signal," a possessed young woman in "The Quiet Ones," and a disturbed young man's love interest in "Bates Motel," Cooke has extensive experience in the horror and thriller genre.

Rated PG-13, "Ouija" hit the box office in top spot and has made a fortune despite terrible reviews and its shaky beginnings.

## Indie artist weaves ethereal music spell

By Clyde Schwab  
Music critic

Ethereal, melancholy vocals and dark but clear piano flow together in ambient dream-pop artist Grouper's new album "Ruins."

Grouper, the project of solo artist Liz Harris, began recording independently in 2005 with her self-titled album and received critical acclaim for her third full-length album "Dragging a Dead Deer Up a Hill" in 2008, signed to Type Records.

BORN IN WEST MARIN, California and currently based in Portland, Oregon, Harris has since received further praise from critics with "A / A," an expansive double album made in 2011 and "The Man Who Died In His Boat," her 2013 album recorded with Kranky Records that consists of outtakes of previous projects..

"Ruins," her 10th studio album, was recorded during in 2011 during a residency in Aljezur, Portugal and released October 28 (2014) by Kranky Records.

Harris says "Ruins" was inspired by her daily hiking trail to the beach in Portugal. "The album was a document," she explained in a press release.



"A nod to that daily walk. Failed structures. Living in the remains of love. I left the songs the way they came (microwave beep from when power went out after a storm); I hope that the album bears some resemblance to the place that I was in."

COMPARED TO her previous albums which were mixes of atmospheric loops, singing and softly-strummed guitar to create tracks that sounded lost between the foreground and background, "Ruins," recorded almost exclusively using only a piano and vocals, seems stark and simple compared to her previous work.



Clyde

Despite the sad tone of this new album, there is a notable sense of place and presence which shines in its most simple tracks. "Holding," soft and harmonious ode to heartbreak contrasts with "Call Across Rooms" where eerie lyrics speak to the resolution of a fight between lovers. "Clearing," my personal favorite, lets haunting, looping piano blend with lullaby lyrics which ebb and flow into indecipherability to create a quiet but melancholy track.

THOUGH THE ALBUM functions cohesively as a whole, the monotony of depression of "Ruins" becomes tiring at times and seems almost melodramatic.

Its final track, "Made of Air," recorded in 2004, consists of slow and ambient loops that doesn't quite mix with the rest of her album.

Nonetheless, Grouper has once again created a brilliant and memorable album that's worth a listen.



# Brief-ly\_

## 2014 U-Highlights finally coming, 2015 underway

■ **YEARBOOK COMING**—Having completed the 2014 U-Highlights and passed it on to the printer in Dallas, the 2015 editors-in-chief have now turned their full attention to this year’s book.

The editors-in-chief this year are seniors Maddi Ross and Ross Tizes and junior Nora Lin.

Last year’s editors-in-chief were Sabrina Holland, now at Wellesley; Maddie Anderson, at the University of Chicago; and Tiffany Davis, at New York University.

“The reason the book took so long to complete is that it is unusually ambitious,” said adviser Wayne Brasler. “It’s unlike any other high school yearbook I’ve seen; it’s really more like a European newsmagazine in reporting, writing, photography and design. The staff worked 13 months on it, and that included coming in over the summer.”

The book was the second consecutive U-Highlights designed by Louis Harboe, now at the University of Southern California. During the production of the book he was featured in a major New York Times story on young entrepreneurs.

The U-High book happened to go to the printer October 28, Mr. Brasler’s birthday. “It was a nice way to turn 25,” he said.

The yearbook was the last advised also by nationally-known photojournalism teacher Liese Ricketts, who has retired after 26 years here. “We made a great advising team, for sure,” Mr. Brasler said. “We are very lucky now to have Benjamin Jaffe on board.”

The yearbook is expected to be handed out later this month or in early December.

“When school began I didn’t think we would be able to get it out by the end of October,” said Nora, who was promoted to editor-in-chief after doing major work on the book, including the entire index. “But the staff really came together and

did get the yearbook done.”

■ **HAIL THE CHIEFS**—Freshman officers have a way of continuing as class leaders throughout high school; then there are those who turn their efforts elsewhere. Which road this year’s 9th-grade leaders choose time will tell. They are as follows:

**President**, Elizabeth Van Ha; **vice president**, Rachel Schonbaum; and **Cultural Union representatives**, Michael Rubin and Florence Almeda.

In other elections, newly chosen for the Discipline Review Board are the following:

**Seniors**: Katie Adlaka, Maryam Alcausa, David Yunis; juniors: Mbella Beseka and Miccaiah Buchheim-Jurison; **sophomores**: Matthew Ferraro and Genivieve Liu; **faculty members**: Daniel Calleri, David Derbes, Sharon Housinger and Daniel Jones, *all Science*; Charles Disantis, *History*; and Farukh Khan, *Math*.

■ **SENIOR’S PAPER PUBLISHED**—The eighth U-Higher to be so honored since 2009, Jennifer Xue, Class of 2014, will have a research paper she wrote on Eli Whitney published in the prestigious Concord Review.

Jennifer was advised by history teacher Charles Branham; her paper appears in the Fall, 2014 issue. The Review is the only quarterly journal in the world publishing academic work by high school students.

Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, a key influence in the Industrial Revolution. It was among numerous inventions he developed during his lifetime, 1765 through 1825.

■ **ON A HIGH NOTE**—Two U-High instrumentalists and two singers have qualified to perform at the Illinois Music Educators Association Senior Band, Chorus and Orchestra Festival, Saturday, November 22 at Lincoln Way West High School in far south suburban New Lenox.

They were selected in auditions Octo-

ber 14 at Carl Sandburg High School in south suburban Orland Park.

The U-Highers will be representing District 1, which includes the city of Chicago. Those chosen were as follows:

**Junior Will Kent**, choir, *tenor*; **senior James Sinclair**, choir, *bass*; **freshman Allen Jiang**, band, *bassoon*; **freshman Jennifer Wang**, band, *flute*; and **sophomore Allie Kreitman**, *orchestra*, cello.

■ **MUSICAL FEAST**—Seventeen U-High and Middle School musicians and singers, and the singing ensemble Bel Canto, won rousing applause at the Fall Afternoon Recital October 19 at Fulton Recital Hall, 1010 East 59th Street.

Performers included the following:

Miccaiah Buchheim-Jurisson, Alina Cui, Imogen Foster, Tobias Ginsburg, Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest, David Hedges, Julia Hedges, Allen Jiang, Will Kent, Nora Lin, Sarah Markoitz, Emma Mueller, Geri Ross, Jennifer Wang, Justin Whitehouse, Teresa Xie and David Yunis.

Members of Bel Canto are as follows:

**SOPRANOS**—Helena Abney-McPeck, Tatum McCormick, Julie Murmann, Bella Pon, Leah Rosenzweig, Daphne Schneewind, Jessica Stein, Nicole Horio, Christine Obert-Hong.

**TENORS**—Josh Kaplan, Will Kent, Danny Kim, Brynn Lewis, Charlie Marks.

**ALTOS**—Kimya Buckner, Jen Chien, Liza Edwards-Levin, Charlotte Elfenbaum, Asha Futterman, Parryssa Khazaeie, Sarah Pon, Jamie Williams.

**BASSOS**—Sam Adelman, Max Bremer, Joe Curci, Edward Freeman, James Sinclair, Sam van Loon.

■ **D.C. BOUND**—Nine members of history teacher Susan Shapiro’s Holocaust course will be in Washington, D.C. this Saturday through next Tuesday to visit and conduct research at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

They are as follows:

Karla Douglas, Val Gardner, Ivana Jurreta, Mimi Lipman, Jordan Moran, Luke Murphy, James Sinclair, Sam van Loon.

Luke, a Midway editor, will be doing a

story on the trip in the December 16 issue of the Midway.

■ **SAFETY AND SECURITY**—New this school year at U-High, public safety coordinators include officers James Worrell and Dexter Reed, who oversee traffic management and can often be seen in the school also.

Stationed in the lobby of Blaine Hall is officer Robyn Roland. Her predecessor, Herb Williams, is now at Earl Shapiro Hall as a public safety coordinator.

Officer Derrik Thomas, who arrived last year, is now at Sunny Gym. And Judd Hall security officer Cynthia Boykin is back after a leave of absence.

Security chief Fountain Walker now holds the title Director of Operation and is overseeing safety and security services, which includes emergency planning and preparedness, and liaison with University security.

He is working closely with Tony Wilson, now senior associate director of operations for the Historic Campus; Scott Griffin, now associate director of operations of Earl Shapiro Hall; and Dennis Crawley, security service supervisor who came to the school near the end of last year.



James Worrell



Dexter Reed



Robyn Roland



Derrik Thomas

## College process still young for seniors

(continued from front page)

process he experienced in India.

“I think that it is a positive experience, it is preparation for adult life,” Dr. Gundeti said. “Particularly how you have to work, and focus on different things all at the same time. Apoorva is fortunate in seeing how her older siblings took on work. In comparison to my experience, this is much more than I did for myself in the higher education process. In India, you basically just fulfilled the curriculum, did well, and went to the corresponding school. Here, the student is looked at from 360 degrees. I think this makes them into quite more mature individuals.”

**MAKING SURE** she completed essays and decisions on time proved crucial to having a good application process, according to Marissa Page, Class of 2014, currently a freshman at Northwestern University. During her senior year, the Common App, created in 1975 to help simplify the application process, crashed, leaving many seniors with early applications in the lurch.

“The summer between junior and senior years was really important, and I ended up getting on top of my work and being finished by the time school started,” Marissa said.

“The Common App really streamlines things, the essay options are not too bad, and they’re certainly not insurmountable. I took the College Essay Writing Workshop that’s usually at the end of August, and it’s basically three days of four hours of work apiece, and it’s really helpful if you use the time constructively.”

**PRIMARY IN HER ADVICE** for juniors is to take advantage of college counselors, as she said they helped her clarify decisions, particularly when choosing where to apply to.

“I was still worried about staying in Chicago, but when I got coffee with Ms. Warehall she asked me to tell her what about the two colleges that I was debating was so good,” Marissa said. “I struggled with the other one, but when it came to Northwestern I went on and on. That experience, just the simple questions, was really revelatory for me.”

For the college counselors, the process of meeting with students begins at the end of students’ sophomore year and culminates in May of their senior year when students finalize their college choices.

**DURING AUGUST** and September, counselors

help students complete the online Common App. However, in August of last year the application was revamped, causing a variety of problems, including difficulty with uploading documents, format glitches, site crashes and repetitive payment prompts.

“One of the big reasons this year has gone smoothly is because the Common Application is a known quantity,” said Ms. Wagner. “When the application was revised last year we experienced technical difficulties, but now we understand the changes and are more familiar with the system. This year’s seniors are also coping well with the changes.”

**COLLEGE COUNSELORS** try to prepare students by helping them think about college as early as the end of sophomore year.

“At the end of each year, we meet with all the sophomores to explain what they can expect as juniors and in particular when to start testing,” Ms. Wagner added. “After that, we don’t interact as much with students who aren’t seniors until junior college workshops in January. That is when students learn about the application process. Later on in the spring, we also start meeting with juniors one-on-one.”

Most seniors met their first application deadlines roughly two weeks ago.

“**I THINK AROUND 85** percent of our students are meeting either a November 1 or October 15 deadline,” Ms. Wagner said. “An issue with early applications is that it creates a bottleneck for both students and counselors at the beginning of the year. It’s a time of stress because right when the quarter is ramping up and midterm comments are coming out we also need to make sure that students have a plan in place for their applications.”

In her office on a chilly Tuesday morning, Ms. Kovacs echoed Ms. Wagner’s thoughts, describing the bustle of a typical day in the months before application deadlines.

“Those weeks leading up to application deadlines are the most time-intensive for counselors and students,” Ms. Kovacs said. “On a normal day, we have about 10 students or college reps with planned appointments, but seniors also drop in for five minute quick questions. They come in for anything from getting chocolate, reading their essays, asking about testing, strategizing about college acceptance and scheduling.”

**SINCE MANAGING EXPECTATIONS** is an important part of a counselor’s job, Ms. Kovacs uses a series of metaphors to help discuss these topics.

“Let’s say I want to go buy a house,” explained Ms. Kovacs. “First, I need to decide what I value. Do I want a single-family home? A condo? An apartment? When I’ve determined that I want x number of bathrooms and this particular type of kitchen, I can find the house that matches my criteria.

“But once I find it, I have to sit back and ask myself, will I be approved for a mortgage? I may really want this 500-acre mansion by the Lake, but I only have \$200,000 so I probably won’t get the mortgage.

“**THIS IS THE REALITY CHECK** that we as college counselors often have to navigate. We want to help students achieve their dreams and I always encourage students to apply to schools that are a stretch, but we also have to be realistic. Even if your transcript is perfect, at schools where there is a five percent acceptance rate it is really just a roll of the dice, and as counselors we have to find the best way to deliver that message.”

Northwestern University’s F. Sheppard Shanley, Senior Associate Director of Admissions, also feels that the whole process is a very positive one, rather than a “rejection process” as it has been described by some.

“When I started, doing this felt right,” he said. “It was interesting, very positive. Positive for the University because it makes it come alive every year, and I get to see the positive energy that students have moving forward and going to college.”

**THE SON OF** Northwestern professors, Mr. Shanley grew up in Evanston and attended Evanston Township High School. He matriculated to Princeton and received a master’s degree in teaching from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Because of his Chicago roots, Mr. Shanley needed no introduction to the rigors of U-High.

“We know Lab is hard,” Mr. Shanley said when asked about comparing the relative difficulties of different high schools. “You become familiar with a school by reading candidates’ applications, but you get a lot of info from the school profile.

“We learn a lot from applications about what students from a given school do with their time. For example Model U.N. might be really big at one school, but not so much somewhere else.”



# Penalty shootout déjà vu for soccermen

## Maroons can't match Kennedy

By Luke Murphy  
Sports editor

Penalty kicks have yet again proven soccermen's kryptonite.

For the second consecutive year, Kennedy High School ended the Maroons' season in a penalty shootout, this year 5-4 in the Regional Semifinal October 23.

**FOLLOWING THE MAROONS'** tie to North Shore October 8, which gave the Raiders the Independent School League title by one point, U-High (7-7-3, 4-1-1 ISL) played three games leading up to the playoffs.

The Maroons defeated Brother Rice 1-0 October 11, lost to St. Ignatius 3-1 October 14 and fell to Eric Solorio Academy 4-0 October 17.

In preparation for the Kennedy game, the Maroons were forced to practice on the Midway, according to senior Clay Surmeier.

**"ON MONDAY** we couldn't practice on Jackman because of an eighth grade game," Clay said. "On Tuesday Jackman was being used for the Regional Semifinal so we couldn't use it then, either.

"We practiced penalties that Tuesday as a joke because we lost to Kennedy last year in PKs, but it ended up being a good idea. It was useful to get practice staying composed in front of the goal. Nerves are the one thing that can get to you in a situation like that and we tried to practice staying calm."

While the disappointment of the



Photo courtesy of Anna Knes

**Maneuvering around a North Shore opponent, Max Brown sweeps the ball across his body as he runs downfield in the Maroons' 1-1 tie with the Raiders October 8 at home. North Shore went on to win the ISL title.**

loss still stings, senior Max Brown insists the team remains proud of its accomplishments.

**"IT WAS OBVIOUSLY** disappointing to lose to Kennedy again because they are not the most pleasant team to play against," Max said, holding back his anger. "They were whiny and annoying and their best player got a yellow card for calling the assistant ref a quite undesirable word.

"It's frustrating because last year we took a 1-0 lead and weren't able to hold it, ultimately losing on penalties. A sort of similar thing happened this year. Senior Michael Glick gave us a 1-0 lead on a beautiful pass from



Photo courtesy of Anna Knes

**With North Shore's Ben Potter fast approaching, Michael Horio looks for a pass upfield. Michael defended Potter, considered the Raiders' best player by the Maroons, throughout the game, and held him scoreless.**

senior Alex Schonbaum, who had his best game of his high school career, really giving us a spark off the bench.

"Following the beautiful pass and goal I asked the ref how much time was left and he said, 'Over 30 minutes,' which was not what I wanted to hear. That's a lot of time.

**"FROM THAT POINT ON** we kind of lost control of the game. We came to accept that it was going to penalties and all we could do was hope that they would miss. They did not. It was really close, though, and I felt very bad for junior Max Rochester, who despite missing the game-deciding penalty played so well throughout the season

and did not deserve to miss.

"Obviously it is not the way we wanted to go out, because we wanted to win something and have a legacy to come back to, but both as a team and individually I believe we can be proud of the way we performed."

Although the Maroons failed to achieve his goals, Michael has no regrets about how the season turned out.

**"I SET** three goals at the start of the season for the team," Michael said. "The first was to win ISL, the second was to win the Regional Championship and the third was to get 10 wins. Unfortunately, we did not come through with any of those goals. While this may sound cliché, the bottom line is it doesn't matter.

"We put absolutely everything we had into delivering on those three goals and while we ended up in second place in the ISL, while we ended up losing in the Regional Semifinal, the earliest playoff exit in my four years, while we ended up with only seven wins, the season was more than a success."

**TO JUDGE THIS TEAM** purely by results would be an injustice, according to Michael.

"We talk so much about legacy, not only with soccer but for any sports program or club or activity at U-High, but our legacy on this team will not be defined by a plaque hanging in Kovler. What it is going to be is creating a team that loves each other, cares about each other, and walks on and off the field together no matter the circumstances. That is something I take a lot of pride in and I hope the team takes a lot of pride in that as well."

## State, national election results stir political pot here

By Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson  
Associate editor

Republican Party gains nationally and locally have some U-Highers distressed, though many express optimism about Illinois' governor-elect Bruce Rauner.

Not all see GOP gains as bad.

**"I FEEL LIKE** now that both the Senate and the House of Representatives are controlled by the GOP, they will be able to put more pressure on President Obama," sophomore Alec Kaplan said. "I also think that they'll be able prevent the Democrats from passing any more harmful bills or legislation like the Affordable Care Act."

All 435 seats in the House of Representatives as well as 36 governorships and 33 Senate seats were up for election. Sweeping in the congressional elections, the GOP gained control of the Senate and padded their control of the House of Representatives.

The GOP gained seven seats in the Senate for a total of 52 seats, and now control 246 seats in the House of Representatives. Those gains are predicted to make it even more difficult for President Obama to press his agenda through Congress.

**IN ILLINOIS,** Republican businessman Bruce Rauner beat out Democratic incumbent Pat Quinn 50.77 percent to 45.87 percent.

Sophomore Alex Lund feels election results reflect voter turnout.

"A large portion of Republican voters are over 60 and have the time and means to vote, while the majority of the Democratic electorate are working class people who have jobs to do," Alex said.

"The Democratic vote suffers as a result of the inability or struggle for these people to get out and vote when they need to."

**DESPITE THEIR CONCERN** about the GOP's gains at the national level, many U-Highers are pleased with Rauner's win in Illinois.

"As a Conservative Democrat, I feel that Rauner was the right choice," junior Andrew Chizewer said.

"I appreciate his desire to improve public education and hope his business acumen will prove to be extremely valuable given the debt that currently exists in Illinois.

"I also think that Pat Quinn was a poor governor who proved nothing but his incompetence during his term."

**HISTORY TEACHER** Charles Disantis feels that the Illinois gubernatorial campaign reflects the current landscape of American politics.

"Both candidates went out of their way not to say anything substantive," Mr. Disantis said. "Both campaigns kind of threw insults at the other candidate.

"The message being sent to voters seemed to be 'choose the lesser evil,' which reflects the overall trend in American politics, which are increasingly divided."

**MR. DISANTIS** did not find the Republican gains in Congress surprising.

"I don't think it's surprising to see this kind of turnover in party leadership" he said.

"I don't think that it reflects any fault on the part of President Obama, but just that voters tend to sway during the presidents' second terms."

## Miller trio down to two after tight Regional loss

By Michael Glick  
Editor-in Chief

"I was super sad that we lost, but the one little silver lining was that I saw my two daughters rise to the challenge."

Despite the volleyball team's 13-25, 20-25 loss to Chicago Christian in the Regional Final October 30, Coach Lisa Miller managed to find a positive in the game, her last coaching both of her daughters.

Senior Eleri Miller and sophomore Averie Miller have teamed up for the past two years, Averie as the setter and Eleri as the outside hitter.

**WHILE HAVING** her mom coach her proved awkward at first, Eleri says she came to appreciate the experience and will miss it in college.

"Being coached by my mom and having Averie on the team has had its challenges over the years," Eleri said. "But I'm going to miss them down the road. I can talk to them in a special way. It's special to have family on the team.

"I just want them to continue their passion for the game. There was so much raw passion during the games and practices, and I hope that continues on."

**IT TOOK AVERIE** time to adjust to playing with Eleri and for her mom, but she says playing without them will prove even weirder.

"It was weird to have my mom as

a coach at first, but eventually I got used to it," Averie said. "Eleri and I were really close before we started playing together, but I think volleyball brought us even closer. It makes me happy to make a perfect set for her and to succeed with her on the court."

Watching her daughters' relationship grow on the court has proven among the most exciting parts of the job, according to Coach Miller.

**"I THINK MY** favorite part has been watching them play together in two very different positions, setter and outside hitter," Coach Miller said. "The dynamic between the two positions is always very important in volleyball, so adding on the element of them being sisters made it very cool to watch.

"It's normal to give the setter feedback as the outside hitter, but there's an edge to it if it's your sister."

Seeing her daughters' growth helped Coach Miller invest more into the program.

**"WATCHING THEM** grow as players has

been a privilege," Coach Miller said. "What really mattered to me was providing a stable program for them. I wanted continuity in the coaching and a culture of taking this seriously.

"We've been able to establish that in large part due to Eleri and Averie's dedication, as well as the dedication of many others."



Photo courtesy of Lisa Miller

**“Watching them grow has been a privilege.”**

—Coach Lisa Miller



# Girls’ tennis doubles teams qualify for State

**By Julian Lark**  
**Associate editor**

Sending seniors Francine Almeda and Della Brown and juniors Grace Anderson and Monica Lewis to State October 23, the girls’ tennis team has ended a strong season with a 12-3 record for varsity and 2-3 record for the frosh-soph team.

Though the Maroons lost their doubles match in the third set against Latin in the Independent School League Tournament October 9, Della said the match ended a tiring and sunny day of competing on the green-blue courts of southwest suburban Moraine Valley Community College.

“It was such a long day, and then we lost the first set, and we were tired, but then we never stopped moving and we came back and won the second set,” she explained.

“Obviously we were bummed to lose but it was just one of those things where you had fun doing it.”

The Maroons were coached this year by two newcomers, coaches Dawuad Talib and Chelsea Trader. Coach Talib, whose experience

includes teaching at Midtown Athletic Club for a year, then at XS Tennis on 47th street for six years and finally coaching the Tanner Grammar School Girls’ tennis team last year, said the team has grown in many ways.

“Their improved skills were the ability to recognize attacking and aggressive opportunities,” Coach Talib said. “The ‘they get it’ moment was when they began to demonstrate that aggressiveness against each other.

“Like most players, they need to improve on their individual skill sets to have answers for the higher caliber opponent-play scenarios.”

Playing against nationally-ranked players has proven an asset varsity player Florence Almeda, freshman, proved central to her positive experience on the varsity team.

“I was terrified of playing competitively actually, but playing first singles on the tennis team kind of forced me to play these crazy good players,” Florence said.

“I still get nervous before a match, but the experience I gained from this definitely helped me grow and learn how to play under pressure.”



As she prepares to serve in her doubles match with Grace Anderson, Della Brown tosses the ball into the air and focuses in. Both Grace and Della were among the girls’ tennis players who qualified for the state competition October 23, along with Francine Almeda and Monica Lewis. Florence Almeda, first singles, also proved particularly important for the Maroons this season.

*Photo by Mary Brady*



Photo courtesy of Jacob Meyer

**Hair bouncing, Genevieve Nemeth finishes her race.**



Photo courtesy of Jacob Meyer

**Powering past a Fenton runner, Charlie Sowerby pushes forward at the Sectional meet.**

## Boy runners fall five points short at Sectional, girls grab 3rd place

**By Mike Glick**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

Finishing in 3rd place behind Latin and Deerfield at the IHSA 2A Sectional November 1, girl runners qualified for State November 8.

Sophomore Elsa Erling and junior Lucy Kenig-Ziesler led the Maroons at Sectionals with 7th place and 12th place finishes, respectively. The boys’ team, which finished tied for 7th place and five points short of State qualification, sent junior Jacob Meyer and sophomore Charlie Sowerby to State as individuals.

**ACCORDING TO** senior Zach Emanuel, the Maroons ran the times they hoped to run but fell short due to good races by other teams.

“We knew it was going to be tough to qualify for State, but our coach, Chris Koutavas, did some calculations and told us the times we would need to run to qualify as a team,” Zach said.

“Everyone knew what they had to run and they ran those times, but unfortunately other teams had really good races so we missed out by five points. I’m a little upset that I didn’t get another chance to show off my training because State is a very fast race, but I had a really good race at Sectionals. It was a PR, and I really can’t be too upset.”

**WITH THREE TOP** boys’ runners returning, U-High will need others to step up for next year’s team.

but you can’t rely on one, two or even three guys to be a successful team. You need all seven guys. While the team will have a good shot to make State with those guys, they’ll need other guys to step in, too.”

Jacob agreed with Zach, and he believes if other runners improve the Maroons will have a good shot to qualify for State next year.

**“WE’RE GOING** to have a really good top three next year since Harrison, Charlie and I are not seniors,” Jacob said. “But it will really be key to have those four and five runners. I think we can definitely win the ISL and qualify for State but it will take a lot of hard work from all of us.

“I think the biggest difference for me was running smarter this year. I trained a lot harder this year, but in the races themselves I knew when to go out hard and when not to go as hard. I knew when to go for number one and when to go for top five.”

For junior Genevieve Nemeth, running at State proved especially exciting this year.

**“TD SAY** the highlight of State was simply being able to run and having the opportunity to improve on one of the best courses, if not the best course, in the state,” Genevieve said. “At State especially we really worked together to improve our times. At Sectionals, it was more about our place. I think we had three or four PRs at State.

“We worked really hard this year, especially because we had a lot of very competitive teams in our Sectional. The girls ran really well at Sectionals, although we expected to make it to State because we were ranked well in the Sectional going in.”

## People of Color Conference

*(continued from page 9)*

the conference after she read my application to be on the Challenge Success Committee, which is where students discuss ways that Lab students should measure success.

“Failure to achieve ‘success’ is a common fear of Lab students. The primary issue is that many don’t understand that they need to measure individual success based on their life goals and passions.”

Though Kellie looks forward to meeting other students with the same passion for this topic, she also hopes to discuss ways to solve racial issues.

After returning from PoCC, Kellie plans to contribute what she has learned by discussing her experience and implementing her ideas through her club.

“I don’t think the current programs we have really allow us to think about diversity enough,” she said.

“There is only one history course in high school that deals specifically with Eastern culture, and one focusing on Is-

lam, while there are many which discuss Western culture.

“I hope to be able to discuss diversity more freely once I return from the conference,” she said. “I could even make this a focus topic for my club, C^3 (C Cubed), around which we can design and carry out a project spreading our message.”

Other delegates are as follows:

**STUDENTS**—Seniors E’lan Robinson and Valentina Gardner; juniors Caleb Hill, Kellie Lu, Olivia Perozo, Xavier Smith; sophomores Liza Edwards-Levin and Janine Liu.

**ADMINISTRATORS**—Dean of Students Ana Campos; Irene Reed, executive director of admissions and financial aid.

**HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY AND STAFF** – Ana Romero, fine arts; Stacy Marienthal, learning and counseling; Cathy Gruber, learning and counseling; Paul Horton, history.

**LOWER SCHOOL TEACHERS**—Erica Lee, Lisa Sukenic, Michael Eldridge.

## New Dress Code

*(continued from page 8)*

long run. This is why we added a line about clothes needing perpetual readjustment.

“One piece that I would like to change is the line ‘distracting to others.’ I believe that people are responsible for themselves. It’s one thing if a school deems it inappropriate to wear tights and a shirt to school. However, the reason shouldn’t be that it’s inappropriate because the outfit is distracting to others.

“It isn’t the point and time to take that line out, though. There needs to be more conversation with faculty and students about the concept. Addressing a student about what they are wearing is awkward and at times difficult for those involved. My hope is that the focus shifts from clothing being a distraction to others to simply being about the inappropriateness for a school setting.”

Senior class Cultural Union representa-

tive Jarrett Lampley believes the code focuses too much on the wrong issues.

“The dress code happens to focus on females more than males,” Jarrett said. “In my experiences, males at school don’t regularly wear female-oriented apparel like dresses, and in our handbook, it appears to put a huge emphasis on how short dresses can be, something that is more oriented towards the female population at Lab.

“Spaghetti-straps are another type of top men don’t regularly wear, and it seems to be another focal point of the code. The dress code as a whole is very broad and subjective, a characteristic that could potentially spark some debates.

“When planning a dress code, there needs to be less administration control and more student feedback. The general student thought process on what is acceptable for school is different from how teachers think.”

## Ferguson turmoil

*(continued from page 8)*

U-High Journalism teacher Wayne Brasler, a graduate of Normandy High School, Michael Brown’s school, plained believes the conflict in the end can provide a positive lesson.

“When I was growing up my father was a street car motor man,” Mr. Brasler said, “and we take me on rides to Ferguson.

“Two weeks before the shooting I went back to the historic district in Ferguson and it looked exactly the same. Ferguson has long been an integrated city not identified with problems with race, but I’ve come to realize that this was just because no one was talking about it.

“The issues in Ferguson were always boiling under the surface. For example, there are almost no black police or government officials. Some say that’s because no black people run for office but they’re not running because they don’t feel like a supported part of the community. The city is paying for 50

years of things not being right. I think the situation can have a positive outcome on both the federal and local level. Many communities like this must be addressed. It’s a national lesson that we can’t just let these inequalities fester for years.”

Black Students’ Association vice president Kimya Buckner said she believes ideas perpetuated by the media are in part responsible for Michael Brown’s death.

“It’s incidents like the one in Ferguson that truly show how society views African-American men as a threat to their safety,” Kimya commented. “Thanks to the constant news stories, television shows and some derogatory and violent rap music, the image of an African-American male often invokes the idea of violence and ignorance.

“This is why when African-American males are in any sort of confrontation others are so quick to draw a weapon. We saw this in the Trayvon Martin case, and we see it again with Michael Brown in Ferguson.”





Photo by Jarrett Lampley

First to the water, Bailey Garb dives into the pool shouldered by two opponents in the Maroons’ meet against IMSA September 30 at Ratner.

# Swimmers reshuffle the deck with Latin, Young

By Luke Murphy  
Sports editor

“The Latin Invitational gave us a lot of confidence, as we took first against two very strong teams in Whitney Young, who came in second, and Latin, who came in third. We really showed them that they have to watch out for us during Sectionals and that we can take them.”

So proclaimed senior Katie Adlaka, co-captain of the girls’ swim team with senior Clare Keenen and junior Ilana Dutton.

Brimming with confidence, U-High girls’ varsity swimmers dove into the pool November 15 with a higher set of expectations than in past years (results from Sectionals came after Midway press time).

Versatility has been essential in the team’s success this year, according to Katie, who was interviewed prior to Sectionals.

“We are a really strong team this year,” Katie said. “The underclassmen have been pulling a lot and we have a lot of versatility. We have a swimmer who not only can swim every event but also place for every event, which we haven’t had in the past. We are able to take on teams like Latin and Whitney Young, which hasn’t happened in U-High swimming history.

“We know we can beat them as long as we go the times we have been going. It is just very important that we go in strong and swim the times we know we can.”

Though swimming back and forth and back and forth again can prove a grueling exercise of repetition, Katie insists the team has found ways to have fun.

“It’s definitely tough and none of us really enjoy going to practice everyday, but the atmosphere and being with the team makes it easier. We’re always singing and playing music during practice so we absolutely have a good time.”

The reflection that accompanied Senior Night proved emotional for Katie.

“I started crying actually because we all stood there remembering our freshman year and how fast the time has come,” Katie said. “For me, I only really swam three seasons with my injury last year, so it was pretty tough. It felt like a year short.

“It was nice for it to come together and see how far the juniors in particular have come, given that we have been with them for three years. It is so cool to see how they’ve grown as we’ve watched and helped them. We had a ceremony after senior night where all the juniors talked to us and recounted stories, which was really nice.”

# Sectional birth culminates 1st year under golf coach

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

Aided by improved putting and the familiar greens of their home course, golfers played their way to Sectional qualification at Regionals October 7.

Led by first-year coach Clint Naegelein, U-High finished its season with the team’s second appearance at Sectionals in school history. With a strong core of young golfers, including junior Andrew Chizewer, sophomores Kyle Adlaka and Andrew Beach and freshman Jeremy Chizewer, U-High appears poised for a strong 2015 season. The Maroons qualified for Sectionals after posting a team score of 389 at Regionals.

Playing on their home course, Lost Marsh, contributed to the Maroons’ success at Regionals, according to Andrew Chizewer.

“We did very well at the Regional, which was unfortunately our only home match of the season,” Andrew said. “It’s such a crazy course that no

one is used to, so it’s really a huge advantage for us.”

U-High sought another team score in the 380s at Sectionals, but Broken Arrow Golf Course proved more difficult for the Maroons to master.

“Our goal score was around 380 as a team and my goal as an individual was to make State, but neither goal really came through,” Andrew said. “We shot in the mid-390s and I didn’t qualify. Next year, once again our goal will be to get to Sectionals. Hopefully, Kyle, Jeremy and I will get to State. It’s a lofty goal, but why not?”

With increased emphasis on putting in practices, the Maroons showed consistent improvement on the green throughout the season. Kyle and Jeremy showed the most improvement of the Maroons’ young core according to Andrew.

“Through a lot of practice and drills, the team as a whole team really improved its putting this year. Jeremy and Kyle improved the most this season. They came in at about the same skill level as most of the team and really separated themselves from the pack.”

Andrew Beach, who improved his Regional score by one stroke at Sectionals, says golfers expect to continue playing in the offseason.

“We definitely have a great shot at making Sectionals again next year,” Andrew said. “Making State will really depend on how hard we work this offseason. Typically, we just start practice in the fall. With the new coach, I think some of the players may be doing more informal practices throughout the year, especially in the spring.

“Making State will really depend on how hard we work this offseason.”



Photo by Gabby Conforti

Uncorking a powerful drive, Andrew Chizewer zones in during a U-High practice at Lost Marsh. The Maroons only had one home match this season.

# Hall of Fame next for James

24 years of U-High coaching merit Bud James’ induction

By Raghu Somala  
Associate editor

After 24 years as head coach of the U-High girls’ and boys’ cross country teams and 18 as head track coach, gym teacher Bud James will be inducted into the Illinois Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame at its annual meeting January 10.

Each year, seven of 40 nominated coaches are voted into the ITCCCA’s Hall of Fame. A committee consisting of 18 Hall of Fame coaches throughout Illinois takes charge of the selection process. In order to receive consideration for this honor, the candidate must have provided 20 years of service to track and field and or cross country.

Mr. James served as U-High’s head boys’ and girls’ cross country coach for 24 years and head boys’ and girls’ track and field coach for 18 years. He started the ITCCCA scholarship 20 years ago, helped found Running USA and coached the USA track and field national team for Seoul international road relay in 1992 and 1999.

Dale Donner from Buda Western and Bureau Valley High Schools, Tony Holler from Plainfield

North High School, Will Kupisch from Downers Grove North High School, Mark North from Sparta High School, Anthony Rainey from Luther South High School and Troy Yunk from Belvidere North High School will also be inducted.

Mr. James’ career as a coach came about only after his aspirations to play baseball didn’t pan out.

“Originally I was a baseball player and I had high goals for myself in that sport,” Mr. James said. “I almost attained what I set out to do but when I didn’t realize a professional career in baseball I found myself in search of a job using my college degree as a teacher and coach.

“In my first teaching job I was given the opportunity to coach cross country and track and it turned out to be a great. As I ran for fitness after baseball it evolved into something that I could do for myself and also influence others at the same time.”

Once he got his feet wet in coaching, he sought a greater platform, working with some of the best athletes in the sport.

“I wound up advising and coaching national and international level athletes who were very good at what they did. In turn, more athletes who had competed in college sought me out for help.”

The rest took care of itself.

“During all of my coaching of national level athletes and through my involvement in USA Track and Field I was fortunate to be selected to coach two U.S. National Teams.

“I was the head coach and the leader of the mission for the 1992 Seoul International Road Relay and the same race in 1999. Coaching an international level

team has a lot of perks which are pretty neat. You get to represent the U.S. and are involved in social functions that include the foreign diplomats in your host city.”

Mr. James found in coaching something greater than he ever could have expected.

“The 1992 team also included my eventual wife, Cindy James, who was a four-time U.S. Olympic Trials Finalist and a member selected for the 1998 World Championship Team. It was so cool to have Cindy on my first team and remains the highlight of my coaching career.”

Mr. James has also left a mark locally with the first Bud James Invitational Cross Country Race, which was held on October 21.

The Bud James Invitational Cross Country Race was created by Mr. Ribbens this year for the first time.

“He asked me last year if it would be okay if the school named a meet for me, and I was honored that they wanted to do that. It is something that rarely happens at most schools. They honored me at the awards ceremony along with my wife. They had special T-shirts with my name on them which was really special.

“They also had coaches from schools who we competed against speak about me after Mr. Ribbens gave a really great speech. It was a really humbling experience to hear all of the nice things that everyone said.

“The special part was when the kids on the U-High team spoke. That was awesome. It was a great day for us.”



Mr. James





Photo by Loïc Khodarkovsky

Ariel Toole, Jason Lin, Gabriel Guevara



Photo by Loïc Khodarkovsky

Jason Lin  
Mira Jacobs



Photo by Anna Funk

Ciara O'Muircheartaigh,  
Veronica Baio, Charlie Sowerby

# Disco dance dazzles

*Dark lights, energy  
bring Homecoming  
dance back to life*

In the darkness of the I-House assembly hall October 18, U-Highers fist pumped along to DJ Jamal Smallz's beat in what many seniors consider the best dance of their four years.

After last year's Homecoming dance in Upper Kovler Gym, which attracted roughly 300 students but encouraged little dancing due to the gym's bright lights, Student Council and Cultural Union officers focused on going "back to the basics" this year. The dance's return to International House and of D.J. Jamal Smallz rekindled U-Highers' excitement for the dance.

"**I ENJOYED** the dance most of all because it was such a stark contrast in terms of success to last year's dance," senior Max Brown said, echoing many students' opinions. "It was really cool to see everyone have a great time together, especially for our last year."

"The dance had more of a relaxed feel than other dances I've been to, and it was a nice unwinding tool. We're at Lab to get good grades, but we need to relax sometimes."

Enjoying the large turnout and the disco-themed I-House setting, dancers proved highly energetic. Most dancers danced in groups, including a soccer team cheer in the middle of the dance floor and several dance circles surrounding bold dancers showing off their moves.

**PREVAILING FASHION** remained relatively casual, with button-up shirts, chinos and sneakers for boys and club dresses and heels for girls.

Highlights also included a chant of "Turn down for what?" when music was stopped due to some students' excessive and out-of-control jumping, a dance floor sing-along to Chicago native Chief Keef's "Don't Like" and the election of brother-sister duo Mary and Brian Brady as All-School Homecoming King and Queen.



Photo by Loïc Khodarkovsky

Kimya Buckner  
Maeve Potter



Photo by Della Brown

Jamie Williams  
Karla Douglas



Photo by Anna Funk

Nigel Van Ha, Grace Cain,  
Ellie Roussos, Fafa Van Ha



Photo by Della Brown

Benny Friedman  
Brad Koontz



Photo by Anna Funk

Ariel Toole  
Trinity Gore

## ROYALTY



**ALL-SCHOOL**  
Mary Brady  
Brian Brady



**SENIORS**  
Madeline Sachs  
Michael Glick



**JUNIORS**  
Grace Cain  
Jason Lin



**SOPHOMORES**  
Christos Nikas  
Mia Waggoner



**FRESHMEN**  
Whitney Thomas  
Sam Morin