

From the ground up

Starting from scratch, retiring teacher created U-High journalism

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief

Wayne Brasler grew up a St. Louis boy.

As he shifted from Normandy High School to Harris Teachers College to the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Mr. Brasler never had any desire to leave Missouri.

"Normandy High School saved my life," Mr. Brasler said. "When I got to Normandy, my whole life opened up. I turned from a loner, an introvert, painfully shy, to very social, very outgoing and it took maybe seven days. I was suddenly surrounded by friends. Suddenly, people liked me. I was going to football games, I was going to parties."

"**WHAT I DIDN'T** know about Normandy was that at Open House, Mary Still, my journalism teacher and a most important person in my life story, had told my parents, 'This is his destiny. You have to get him to the University of Missouri School of Journalism.'"

"My parents didn't have the money. She told them, 'I don't care how you do it, but do it.' Well, I couldn't afford to go to the University of Missouri, so for two years I went to Harris Teachers College, where it was only \$75 dollars a semester."

"The first day at Harris there were five of us from Normandy, all of us very unhappy to be there, and in walks the yearbook editor with a photographer. It's Carol Leasck from the Normandy Class of 1955! And I walked up and said, 'You're Carol Leasck, aren't you?' And



Photo by Francine Almeda

When new journalism teacher and publications adviser Logan Aimone visited U-High December 4, Wayne Brasler and U-Highlights editor-in-chief Maddi Ross showed him examples of U-High's off-beat but award-winning yearbook.

she said yes, and I said, 'I'm Wayne Brasler from Normandy.' And she said, 'I know who you are.' And I asked her, 'Am I going to be happy here?' And she said, 'You can be a very big frog in a very small pond if you want to be.'"

MR. BRASLER was elected freshman class vice president and, by sophomore year, managing editor of the Harris newspaper, the Collegian.

He went on to the University of Missouri, then returned to St. Louis as the editor of a weekly suburban newspaper. He had considered working on the Normandy High paper, the Courier, his most important experience and had thought about teaching high school journalism.

"But I didn't seek a high school job," Mr. Brasler said. "Then one day this

letter comes from the University of Chicago Lab Schools, which I'd never heard of in my life. They wanted me to help start a journalism program. The Lab Schools Director, who had been Superintendent in Clayton, Missouri had written the University of Missouri looking for someone who was an expert on high school newspapers."

"**U-HIGH'S PRINCIPAL** came to St. Louis to interview and I, who had never even thought of leaving St. Louis, ended up in Chicago starting a new program."

"We started with nothing. We had no budget, no office, just a typewriter. But that pioneering staff was exceptional; by the end of the year the Midway won the award for Best Newspaper in a State contest."

The award proved the first of hun-

dreds. But Mr. Brasler emphasizes not the awards themselves but the time and diligence that went into the work.

"It's ironic because the program has always been identified with awards and honors," he said. "It's the last thing I thought about, and certainly the last thing the editors and staffs have ever thought about. When the publications get awards, I almost always forget to tell everybody for a couple of weeks."

MR. BRASLER has continually revised his curriculum throughout his 51 years at U-High. He prides himself on individualizing his teaching to each student's strengths and learning style.

"I look at all of the rubrics other teachers have and all the tests and I can't identify with that," he said. "This program has been totally individualized to identify each and every student's abilities and talents and goals in life. Everybody in here is getting a different journalism course."

"And that's one reason we have so many prominent people in the media from this program. I never wasted their time on getting test answers right or learning procedures or learning protocols or learning what everybody else is learning. It's very organic. It comes from their hearts and their brains. And it's worked."

"**THE THING** I'm most proud of is I came from media, I was on radio as a kid, and I was warned by the lady who mentored me, a radio and T.V. star in St. Louis who also was a school teacher, never to do both because I would never fit in."

"That made me determined to be a great teacher, to develop my own curriculum and update it every

(continues on page 7)



Photo by Alex Thompson

Prominent justice discusses gay marriage rulings

Grandfather of U-High senior Nathaniel Posner, Judge Richard Posner came to speak with U-Highers December 11 invited by History Teacher Cindy Jurisson. A justice of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Mr. Posner recently helped strike down gay marriage bans in Wisconsin and Indiana. After his talk, he spoke with Spectrum president Valentina Gardner.

Canceled event leaves U-Highers skeptical

By Clay Surmeier
Editor-in-Chief

The debate over pro-Palestinian political activist Rasmea Odeh has brought the U-High student body ablaze with discussion, throwing into question not only the ethics of this particular debate but also the role of free speech and how U-High should handle such controversial issues.

Senior Julia Mearshimer proposed a rally in the cafeteria in support of Odeh that Dean of Students Ana Campos initially accepted. Because of Odeh's involvement in fatal terrorist bombings and with an illegal organization, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, she received a life sentence in prison by an Israeli military court.

After spending 10 years in prison, a prisoner exchange with the PFLP in 1980 resulted in her release. In 2014, she was sentenced by a U.S. federal jury for concealing her previous conviction and imprisonment in Israel on immigration documents. However, Odeh maintains that she did not receive a "full and fair trial," claiming that the Israeli military tortured her into confession. The judge ultimately ruled this irrelevant. Julia disagreed with this decision.

In an attempt to raise awareness and show support for what she saw as the mistreatment of a beloved activist, Julia put up informational posters around the school and planned to designate a day to the issue. Before school, she planned to hand out

(continues on page 7)

Antarctica, Antigua, Argentina among vacation desinations

By Syrah Russell
Midway reporter

Traveling in Antarctica for three weeks over winter break, junior Grace Broderick will participate in a research and learning program sponsored by two education and research organizations with 90 other high school students from around the world. Grace applied to the program through People to People and received her acceptance early last February.

Grace will fly to Argentina December 26 then travel on a research boat operated by Students on Ice, which conducts annual expeditions to the Antarctic and Arctic for high school students. The trip will commence through Drake Passage through locations including a dormant volcanic island and bird havens, as the voyagers study the biology of Antarctica and the Shetland Islands.

“I’VE ALWAYS WANTED to be a paleontologist,” Grace said. “I am expecting to learn a lot about the scientific process and meet people with very different backgrounds from mine, but similar goals. The trip supposedly includes a lot of adventure. They use a fleet of small Zodiac boats to make landings along the coast if we notice something interesting we want to check out.”

Visiting the Caribbean for the second year, senior Leah Rosenzweig with her family will vacation on Antiqua island.

“Last time I went, I learned how to kite-board, which was really fun, but difficult,” Leah said. “Unfortunately, because the weather was unpredictable, I only got one day to do it, so instead I went wave-boarding. I am excited to try kite-boarding again.”

IN BARCELONA, senior Jonah Berg will experience Spanish culture, including medieval villages.

“I’m very excited to visit Spain since my family is originally from the area,” Jonah said. “I’ve always loved Spanish architecture. We will be staying in the heart of the city where there is a lot to see and do.”

French Teacher Catherine Collet-Jarard expects to enjoy a Christmas day dinner of shellfish, oysters, scallops, smoked salmon, fish and turkey with her family in Nantes, a large city in western France.

“WE ARE SO GRATEFUL to my father for cooking this extravagant and succulent dinner all by himself,” Ms. Collet said. “As a professional chef, he does not let anyone n the kitchen for fear that we will mess up his work. Christmas dinner feels like going to a five star restaurant, except that we all gathered at home and we don’t have to pay the bill. You can’t beat that!”

The dinner itself usually lasts for about six hours of the total celebration, beginning at 9 o’clock Christmas Eve and ending around 5 o’clock Christmas morning.



Photo courtesy of E’lan Robinson

In opening ceremonies at the People Color Conference in Indianapolis, 1,600 delegates heard Michael Eric Dyson, sociology professor at Dyson, link past and present.



Photo courtesy of E’lan Robinson

At lunch, an opportunity to meet other delegates, Olivia Perozo chats enjoys time with a new acquaintance on the first day of the program-packed, and exhausting, conference.

U-Highers return from diversity conference ready to try new ideas

By Talia Goerge-Karron
Midway reporter

Returning from the Student Diversity Leadership Conference and the People of Color Conference for teachers and administrators, eight U-High students arrived back at school with ideas from many activities they participated in including discussions dealing with understanding differing learning abilities and socio-economic situations. The concurrent annual events are sponsored by the National Association of Independent Schools.

More than 1,600 student delegates participated in the conference December 4-6 at the JW Marriott in Indianapolis. Among information they gained in the dozens of programs offered were the eight identifiers of diversity, which are race and ethnicity, age, ability for learning, religion, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation, and family structure.

“I THINK the biggest rule I learned was to listen, listen, listen, and then process,” senior Valentina Gardner said.

Junior Elizabeth Stolze said her favorite discussion “was talking about different types of diversity and levels of abilities. While kids going to U-High are diverse, there is a lack of understanding of each other’s diversity. A diverse population goes beyond race.”

Respect for everyone proved a theme throughout programs.

“In all of my groups, we talked about self-acceptance and self-love,” junior Olivia Perozo said. “What makes us unique is important. That was a really common thread that came out in all of my groups.”

THE KEYNOTE speaker, Michael Eric Dyson, sociology professor at Georgetown University, emphasized the connection between the present and history.

Concerts brighten holiday time

By Marissa Martinez
Associate editor

The practiced sounds of Beginning U-High Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Bel Canto will resound in Mandel Hall for the Fall Concert, 7:30 tonight.

Directed by music teachers Francisco Dean and Cathy Janovjak, the Band will present four pieces highlighted by “Sarabande,” the fifth movement from “Courtly Airs and Dances.” Composed by Ron Nelson in 1995, the song will be performed by both Band and Choir.

ALSO ON THE program are “Fanfare for the Common Man and Christmas Festival Overture,” arranged by Aaron Copland and “Fantasia on the Dargason,” arranged by Gustav Holst.

The Concert Choir will offer four songs directed by teacher Katy Sinclair. “Mojuba,” an African rain song arranged by Brian Tate, will include freshmen Ellie LaVia and Whitney Thomas playing the djembe and congo drums.

“If Music Be the Food of Love” by David Dickau, “Yo Le Canto” arranged by David Brunner, and “Try to Remember” from the musical “The Fantasticks” will also be presented.

BEL CANTO, a choir of 26 U-Highers, will present three songs separate from Concert Choir. An Italian madrigal “Bonzorno, Madonna” by Antonio Scandello will contrast the South African freedom song “Tshotsholoza,” or “Go Forward,” arranged by Jeffery Ames, with James Sinclair and Will Kent as soloists. “Holly Jolly Christmas,” composed by Johnny Marks and arranged by Kirby Shaw, made famous by folk singer Burl Ives, will provide holiday cheer.

The Orchestra, conducted by teachers Rozalyn Torto and Michelle Miles, will present four selections, including the Mozart piece “Eine Kleine Nachtmusik,” or “A Little Serenade,” written in 1787, for which the Chamber Collective will join them.

U-HIGH MUSIC GROUPS have made numerous appearances in the community recently, including a Jazz Band engagement December 2 which drew an enthusiastic crowd at the Checkerboard Lounge in Hyde Park.

Last Tuesday night, the U-High Chamber Collective and Bel Canto presented a much-praised Chamber Concert at the Logan Center.

On the go? Grab Medici!



Photo by Francine Almeda

Conversing with our friendly staff, senior Storm Taft finalizes his order for our flavorful black bean burger and cool tropical smoothie with yogurt.

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Holocaust class trip offers unexpected experiences

By Luke Murphy
Associate editor

It hit like a freight train. The smell of old leather, sweat and grit. To the left and right countless leather shoes lined my path. The footwear of those that didn't make it. That scent, above all, will stick.

History teacher Susan Shapiro was leading 10 seniors in her Holocaust elective for the 21st year on a three-day trip to the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., Saturday-Tuesday, November 22-25. History teacher Paul Horton also participated in the trip.

WE WENT TO the Museum on Sunday and found it packed with families and at least 10 other school field trip groups. From outside the Museum looks impenetrable—a grey cinderblock fortress. Walking inside, U-Highers were immediately struck by its ominous nature.

“Architect James Ingo Freed designed the entire Museum to be very, very narrow in the beginning and then allow you more space as you progress through the main exhibit,” explained senior Valentina Gardener, who had researched the building. “It provides the feeling of dwindling numbers.”

We begin by taking an elevator up to the top floor. Here we learn about the years preceding the Holocaust. Some educational videos are offered, but it is mostly real footage of the Nazi party in its infantry along with accompanying posters covered with text describing what we're watching.

“AS WE PROCEED through the Museum it funnels us down a narrow path with information and exhibits evolving chronologically,” Valentina explained. “The second floor is dedicated to the years during the Holocaust and the bottom floor is dedicated to the years after.

“With good purpose the layout provokes sentimentality,” she continued. “Looking back on the experience, where it affected me most was this little booth that showed a kids toys that he had before the war. During the war he was separated from his parents, but after the war upon reuniting with his parents, they gave him the same toys that he'd before.

“At the end of the main exhibit there was a three-hour loop of survivors' stories that I found very meaningful.

“My favorite story that I heard was that of a father who insisted on his daughter wearing her ski boots. When it came for the death march these boots saved not only her feet but her life. To hear it first person from the survivor in particular was powerful.

EDWARD LITWIN FOUND an exhibit detailing other genocides particularly enlightening.

“I think the most meaningful moment for me on the trip was going to the Wexner Center, located within the Museum,” he said. “It looked at all the genocides that have occurred since the Holocaust. I thought it was meaningful because you're seeing what all these other people go through and you're seeing what happened there and the differences between each. I think that going there really helped me learn about other country's genocides such as Serbia and Darfur.”

ON BOTH Monday and Tuesday, U-Highers are at the National Holocaust Museum Library doing research on a topic of their choosing. It will culminate in a research paper.

While he felt daunted initially by how much library time had been set aside, Jordan Moran found the time fulfilling.

“My high point of the trip was, surprisingly, being in the library all day Monday,” Jordan said. “When I started I said to myself, ‘Ahh what am I doing.’ but it ended up being a really good experience. I am researching a theory that says if there had been no Germans there would have been no Holocaust. This is known as the Golden Hagen Debate and, needless to say, is very controversial.”

THE MUSEUM educated its U-High visitors, but it also put things in perspective for us. As U-Highers we find ourselves so often lamenting our workloads. However, after witnessing a living documentation of the loss of human life on a sickening scale, what used to seem big doesn't seem so big anymore.

Yes, it is a topic of great sadness but it is also a testament to the determination, resiliency, and power to endure that humans possess. Because of our trip to D.C., my classmates and I will never see the little things, the trivial things, in our life the same way. Nor should we.



Photo courtesy of Valentina Gardener

Visits to the Lincoln Memorial and other fabled monuments in the nation's capital on a bone-chilling frigid night resulted in a memorable experienced for tired, and tired-of-walking, U-Highers on the Holocaust class field trip.



Photo courtesy of Luke Murphy

Besides experience the U.S. Holocaust Museum and nation's capital, U-Highers in the Holocaust class on their field trip November 22-25 tackled research for papers on challenging topics in the Museum's famed library, to which scholars from around the world come for rare resources.. Valentina Gardener's topic is oppression against gays and lesbians during the Holocaust.

Brief-ly Midway stays golden

Gold Medalist, the top rating, has been received from the Columbia (University, New York City) Scholastic Press Association for the Midway's issues last year

To earn the award, the paper had to score at least 800 of 1,000 points in the scorebook; the Midway scored 852.

The Midway won its first Medalist rating the first year the paper was entered in the contest, that evaluation including issues from the last quarter of the 1964-65 year and the first quarter of the 1965-66 year. Those were the first years the paper was advised by Wayne Brasler. It has won a Medalist award every year since, with Mr. Brasler the adviser now in his 51st years.

For last year's issues, judges commended the Midway's outstanding coverage and depth reporting but lamented the need for improved proofreading and encouraged more use of graphics.

Editors-in-chief were Sonia Bourdaghs (for the second year), Mike Glick (also an editor-in-chief this year), Marissa Page and Hebah Masood. The photojournalism adviser, in her final year at the school, was Liese Ricketts.

■ TOP RANK!—Sixty-five U-High seniors have been designated Illinois State scholars based on their standardized test scores. The honor does not include scholarships but does offer prominent recognition.

The scholars are as follows:

Ragan Aggarwal, Maryam Alausa, Francine Almeda, Katherine Bauer, Maya Ben-Shahar, Clea Braendel, Arthur Chang, Jennifer Chien, Xiaofan Dai, Glenn Decety, Gabriella Demaio, Clara Depablo, Jaideep Dhona, Zachariah Emanuel, Lucas Fagen, Adam Fine, Edward Freeman, Benjamin Freedman.

Philip Gianfortunelli, Mike Glick, Miles Grogger, Apoorva Gundeti, Natalie Holley, Michael Michael, Jacquelyn Ingrassia, Jeffrey Jou, Clare Keenan, Alexander Kim, Jeesea Kim, Anna Knes, Peter Knight, Eriko Koide, Kevin Li, Elizabeth Libes, Miriam Lipman, Edward Litwin, Jinnu Liu.

Jackson Martin, Julia Martinez, Jane Maunsell, Julia Mearsheimer, Walker Melton,

Zachary Minor, Luke Newell, Christine Obert-Hong, Lily Olsen, Isabella Pon, Nathaniel Posner, Karen Reppy, Benjamin Rhind, Sofie Rosenzeig, Geri Ross, Maddi Ross, Madeline Sachs, Miranda Scariata, Alexander Schonbaum, Sriraghurama, Somala, Clay Surmeir, Storm Taft, Henry Utset, Sam Vanloon, Justin Whitehouse, John Williams, David Yunis, James Zhang.

■ SENIOR GETAWAY—In beautiful guest townhouses at Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort in the Galena Territory, seniors will have access to downhill skiing, sledding, ice skating, an indoor pool and fitness center during their Getaway, Saturday-Monday January 24-26.

The historic town and shopping mecca of Galena and the city of Dubuque near the Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa border are a short ride away.

“The first night, we are getting speakers so we can play music if people want it, because I thought it was something we missed last year,” said Dean of Students Ana Campos.

Movies, board games and ping pong are also being arranged.

■ KING ASSEMBLY SPEAKER—A famous educator, writer and speaker on achieving diversity in educational institutions and in everyday life will speak at this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Assembly., Thursday, 10 a.m. Thursday, January 15 at Rockefeller Chapel.

She is Amanda Lewis, associate professor of African American studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

As in past years, U-High organizations will offer music, dance and spoken performances for the program.

■ FUTURE LABBIE?—Lab Schools Historic Campus nurse Mary Toledo-Trevino received an early holiday gift just as Thanksgiving Day got underway. At 12:35 a.m. her daughter Anais Ixtabella Rosmaria Trevino made her debut, weighing 5 pounds, 6 inches. Congratulations were extended to Bella's father David and her big brother Sebastian.

Make December a month to remember!



Photo by Francine Almeda

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Successful Model U.N. still looking to build strengths

By Illeana Minor
Midway reporter

After winning Best Small Delegation during the Princeton conference November 20-23 in New Jersey, Model U.N. will prepare to compete against Horace Mann and Dalton schools for Best Large Delegation at the Harvard conference January 29 - February 2 at the Sheraton Boston hotel, giving the new delegates opportunities to show their strengths.

To choose the new delegates, the team staged a mock conference December 8 at school. Veterans led a simulation focused on the strengths and weaknesses found in the new delegates at the University of Virginia, November 7-November 9, their 35 delegates winning Best Large Delegation.

“Last year, Dalton beat us at Harvard, winning Best Large Delegation,” senior Maryam Alausa said regarding the Harvard conference. “We haven’t won Best Large Delegation at Princeton since before I entered high school, but we did win Best Large Delegation at University of Virginia, and Best Small Delegation at Princeton.

“The only reason we didn’t win Best Large Delegation at Princeton was because we only had 15 delegates.”

Co-president of Model U.N. Senior Eriko Koide, copresident with senior Alijah Futterman, added, “One of the keys to success at both Virginia and Princeton were to divide ourselves into small groups, three groups of about 12 for Virginia and two groups of about seven people for Princeton.

“This allowed each delegate more individualized attention from head delegates to help them practice emotional, policy, and solution based speeches.”

Debate brings home honors

By Talia Goerge-Karron
Midway reporter

After a strong performance at Glenbrook tournament in Glenview Illinois, November 22-24, the Debate team prepares to compete against debate teams from 127 schools, 31 states and two countries at the John Edie Holiday Debate Tournament hosted by the Blake School at the Hyatt Downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota December 19-21.

At the Glenbrook North and South tournament in Glenview, Illinois November 22-24, Varsity team members senior Luke Newell and junior Reed Rosenbacher won 6 to 1 and advanced to octafinals where they were defeated 2 to 1 placing 14th in the tournament. Novice team freshman Alex



Luke

Blocker and freshman Elbert Du won 4 and lost 2 and advanced to octafinals where they lost. They won speaker awards in all three divisions: novice, junior varsity, and varsity. Freshman Elbert Du was awarded the 10th speaker in novice division, sophomore Asha Futterman won 13th speaker in her junior varsity division, and senior Luke Newell was 11th speaker in varsity division.

The Debate team attended the Dowlings Catholic Paradigm December 12-14 in West Des Moines, Iowa. (Results available after press time.)

Glenbrook tournament were as follows:

Varsity team juniors Alina Cui and Robert Bacon went 3 to 4 in preliminary rounds; Junior varsity team sophomores Jackie Walker and Pria Parsad won two rounds out of seven against varsity teams.

With new coach, Math Team adds up admirable placings

By Alex Lund
Midway reporter

After competing in the Northern Suburban Math League competition Thursday, October 30 at Conant High School and Thursday, December 4, at Downers Grove High School, the Math Team is preparing for its next meet February 4 at Walter Payton High School.

Scoring 267 points out of a possible 350, the U-Highers came in 4th at their second meet of the year at Conant.

Perfect scorers included Helena freshmen Abney-McPeck and David Pan and seniors Rajan Aggarwal and Arthur Chang. Rajan also won



Rajan

1st place in the oralist competition, scoring 46 out of a possible 50 points.

The team’s veteran coach, math teacher Rosa McCullagh, has been joined by math teacher Joseph Scroll, replacing former longtime coach, math teacher Nadja Aquino, who left the school when her family moved to Atlanta

“We are starting to get into the swing of things with Mr. Scroll as our coach,” Rajan said. “While Ms. Aquino was a phenomenal coach and we all miss her dearly, Ms McCullough and Mr. Scroll have kept the team running very well.

“The logistics of the team are more or less the same, as there is quite a large degree of autonomy on Math Team. At our first competition, we figured out what we needed to focus on, and hopefully at the next NSML meet we will perform a little better.”

Science team kicks off season with ISO

By Dheven Unni
Midway reporter

After competing in the Harlem Invitational last Saturday (after Midway presstime) for the first time, U-High’s Science Olympic team begins will prepare for Niles West Invitational January 10, tweaking build events, and updating study guide.

Other components of the Science Team—Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering, Junior Engineering Technology Society, and Environment face a challenging schedule of competitions in Winter and Spring quarters.

Captains see the events as offering



Jay

valuable experience and clues to forming team rosters.

“We’re taking a more hard-numbers based approach to designing rosters,” said senior Jay Dhanoa, ISO caption with junior Tiffany Suwatthee. “Invitational lets us take the team as a whole for a test run, so we can rearrange events and people.”

WYSE captain Walker Melton, junior, also recognizes the experience angle.

“This year, we’re putting more students as j.v. and pitting them against large competitors to give as many people as possible a chance to compete.

“Science Team has fewer freshmen because we haven’t marketed Science Teams as much as we did in past years/ We have enough quality competitors that we don’t have to actively seek new members.”



Photo by Nikita Dulin

Green Team promotes responsible recycling

After finding that 89 percent of recyclables at school in the wrong bins during a waste audit, Monday November 24, Green Team is implementing a system of signs above bins to help people determine what goes where.

“We are talking to the University’s Sustainability Department about setting up signs by bins with information about what should go into that specific bin,” said junior Ariel Gans, co-vice president with Angela White. Senior Jax Ingrassia is president. “We are also planning to do another waste audit during Spring Quarter.”

In the photo, from left, are: Anna Bakwin, Jax, Angela, Halima Mossi, Ariel Gans, chemistry teacher Daniel McDonald, Erika Hsieh, Anna Kenig-Ziesler, Chantelle Dupont and Green team adviser Gail Poole.

Certamen team focusing on each member’s preparation

By Sonny Lee
Midway reporter

Certamen, the competition branch of U-High’s Latin Club, is preparing for its St. Ignatius meet, February 3, having each team member learn more about one specific topic.

Advised by Latin teacher Daniel Ristin, the Certamen team includes three divisions: Latin I, Latin II and Latin III.

Certamen competitions take place in a quiz-bowl like setting, where several teams compete at the same time.

“There are three tables in a small semicircle, with one team at each table, and everyone has either buzzers,” explained Certamen president Logan Young, junior. “For each toss up question, worth 10 points, the first person to buzz in and answer correctly gets the points.

“Then if you get the toss up correct your team then gets two bonus questions worth five each. Every round

has 20 toss-up questions, with three rounds at each competition. The topics are generally based around Mythology, Prose and Poetry, History and Culture, and Latin Language and Grammar.

Added junior Theodore Ando, “We are not allowed to communicate with our team members during the main questions, so at that time, our strategy might consist merely of allowing our team members to answer things in their respective areas.”

At Walter Payton December 2, the upper team consisting of Logan Theodore Ando, and junior Eve Skosey-LaLonde placed 3rd, while the lower team consisting of sophomore Hazel Martello placed 1st.

“While we could have done better, we were up against some stiff competition at Kenwood,” Theo said. “Many of the other schools have more serious investment from their student bodies than Lab.”

National events ahead, Scholastic Bowl develops new talent in Middle School

By Sarah Pan
Midway reporter

After the A team placed fourth of 36 teams on Saturday November 22 in the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association kickoff meet at Homewood Flossmoor High School in the south suburbs, the Scholastic Bowl team is preparing for the Tournament of Excellence at New Trier High in north suburban Winnetka this Saturday, December 20.

Placing 4th that H-F qualified the team for national level competition this spring, according to junior Lauren Onel: the Partnership for Academic Competition Excellence’s National Scholastic Championship, and the National Academic Quiz Tournament’s High School National Championship Tournament.

Other upcoming meets include the Knights’ Challenge at Rockford Auburn High School January 10 (for novices only and Fremd JV/Varsity at Fremd High School January 17.

Winning seven out of nine matches at H-F, U-High’s A team, juniors Lauren Onel, Harry Ni, Nigel Van Ha and seniors Clare Keenan and Alex



Clare

Schonbaum, obtained a shutout in one match where the opposing team did not receive any points. Senior Clare Keenan, team copresident, with senior Adam Fine tied for 2nd place individually.

The B team, newer members juniors Marcel Dupont, Ravi Nayak, Daniel Zhu and senior Amber Huo, won three of their eight matches.

“The new members have been doing very well,” Clare said. “We run our practices like tournaments so they always know what to expect.

“ They placed 3rd and 4th at two novice tournaments earlier this year. I actually had someone from another school come up to me to say that his novices were intimidated by ours.”

Following their success with younger members, Scholastic Bowl has started a Middle School team for grades 6-8.

English Teacher Colin Rennert-May is faculty adviser for both the High School and Middle School teams.

“The best way to have good players is to get them started as soon as possible,” Clare explained.

“They meet during their activity period, and practice with old questions in a tournament setting. There aren’t many middle school tournaments, but we hope to bring them to one this year.”



Helping others after a family tragedy

By Jackie Walker
Associate Editor

More than two years after her father died tragically after saving two young boys from drowning, sophomore Genevieve Liu can take pride in pushing through overwhelming grief to help other teenagers who have lost parents.

Dr. Donald Liu, renowned head of pediatric surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Center, had been with his family at a vacation home in Lakeside, Michigan, enjoying the end of summer with another family.

At Cherry Beach on Lake Michigan, two young boys in the other family decided to go boogie boarding. Watching them, Dr. Liu noticed they were in the water drifting from shore. He dove into the Lake, managed to get the boys into a canoe, then swimming toward shore was pulled under. Frantic resuscitation efforts which followed did not succeed.

Dr. Liu's death became national news and still resonates. The loss was particularly felt in the University community and the memorial service at KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation drew 3,000 people. A feature story on what followed will appear in the 2014 U-High yearbook.

Dr. Liu and Genevieve's mother, Dr. Dana Suskind, were known to be loving and attentive parents. Genevieve was 13 when her father died, Asher 10 and Amelie 7.

Genevieve quickly learned how devastating grief can be.

"Grief itself is something that is really untouched in our society," she said. "It is truly an isolated feeling. People pitied me, people were afraid of me. I couldn't help feeling that I was the only teen who had ever lost a parent. There's a statistic that reads one in 10 teens under the age of 16 will lose a parent. It dawned on me that there needed to be an accessible way those teens to find each other."

She subsequently founded SLAP'D, Surviving Life After A Parent Dies, a non-profit online organization offering a forum for discussion and contact with people who have lost parents at an early age.

"The reason we have this is that after losing a parent you begin to question if you'll be able to live the same life you thought you were supposed to," Genevieve explained, adding that "It actually wasn't that hard to find people who were interested in sharing their stories,"

The site also offers an opportunity to create a tribute



Photo courtesy of Genevieve Liu

EXPLAINING SLAP'D at SeedCon, an entrepreneur showcase cosponsored by Chicago Booth, Genevieve Liu explains the outreach she created amid her own overwhelming grief after her father's tragic death.

to a loved one including music, photos and videos.

"I wanted to touch people the same way my dad did," Genevieve said. "I have a younger brother and a younger sister and I wanted there to be something for them too."

Immigration reform sparks mixed reactions at U-High

By Elizabeth Meyer
Midway reporter

Overriding Congress using an executive order, President Barack Obama approving November 20 an immigration reform bill providing illegal immigrants a path to citizenship has gotten a variety of opinion at U-High.

According to the Pew Hispanic Research Center, the number of hispanic immigrants living in the United States has risen from 8.4 million people in 2000 to 11.1 million in 2011.

Often these immigrants work hard and have families who are willing to pay taxes and abide by the law. The President's Immigration Accountability Executive Actions will allow millions of these immigrants currently living in America for at least five years to become legal citizens.

MANY CRITICS believe the President's decision had nothing to do with immigration, but represents a counter tactic after Republican electoral victories in November.

Last year, Democrats, Republicans, and Independents in the Senate came together to pass a bipartisan bill that would have doubled the number of Border Patrol agents, given undocumented immigrants citizenship if they could pay a fine and start paying taxes and boosted the American economy.

Republicans in the House blocked the bill from a vote, so the President's recent decision overrode Congress and

passed the bill himself.

History teacher Charles Disantis believes that the President's decision was not intended to slam Republicans.

"I DON'T TEND to see Obama as the vengeful sort," Mr. Disantis said. "He has always advocated for minorities, and I think this has been in his mind for a long time. It makes more sense economically to let immigrants in. Directing resources toward border control has been inefficient."

Model U.N. president Eriko Koide, senior, expressed similar views

"I definitely think that there is an aspect of trying to override the barrier that is the Republican party," he said. "That is one of the features of executive action, after all."

"HOWEVER, I ALSO think that he genuinely wants to get immigration reform passed. That was one of his goals when he was first elected."

Model U.N. vice president Karen Reppy, senior, sees no problem with the President overriding Congress.

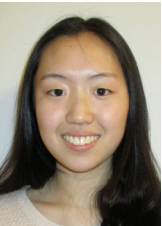
"I don't believe Obama overstepped his bounds; previous presidents, including George H. W. Bush, have taken actually very similar actions," Karen explained.

"IN FACT, if you look back, Obama has not taken very much executive action compared to other Presidents before him."

"It is an unfortunate fact that Obama's decision has been so criticized. This is not a political action; it is about protecting immigrants who have been in this country for a long time. We must see this from a humane point of view and recognize the positive benefits."



Charles Disantis



Eriko Koide



Karen Reppy

Step out of the cold and into Cedars!



Photo by Loic Khodarkovsky

Looking through the menu at Cedars Mediterranean Kitchen, Jason Lin, Max Rochester and Mary Brady decide on the crispy falafel and spinach-garlic flatbread.

Filled with the traditional tantalizing Mediterranean aromas surrounding our open gallery kitchen, Cedars Mediterranean Kitchen is located only a few blocks away from U-High. Come taste our grilled lamb chops, marinated in lemon, garlic and fresh herbs and spices, and enjoy watching its preparation. If you want to enjoy our traditional food at home, order carry out and bring with you the mouth-watering aromas of Cedars' dishes.



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When U-High Student Govern

Responsible for decision-making, budgets, social events, rule enforcement and more, student leaders asserted authority

By Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson
Associate editor

Conceived in 1915 and approved by the faculty and student body in 1916, until the 1960s U-High's student government served much as it does today, planning events and allocating funds to various clubs.

By the mid-1960s, student government at U-High consisted of two branches beside Student Council. Student Union planned "dances and other social events" and managed the budget so that students could "live it up without sending the activities funds into the red," according to the May 14, 1965 Midway. Student Board dealt with discipline problems and rule enforcement.

"**STUDENT BOARD** handled student discipline, but also tried to come up with rules that we thought were correct instead of rules just coming from faculty," Wendy Blum Coggins, a 1966 U-High graduate of U-High and member both of Student Board and Student Union, said in a phone interview.

"We weren't elected. We were asked to serve on the Board by other members. I think when we came up with new rules, we had to pass them on to the faculty for approval, but I don't remember anything other than consensus between students and faculty. I don't even remember students feeling that they were ever being inappropriately reprimanded."

The daughter of U-High graduates, Ms. Coggins attended Colorado College and then taught at inner-city schools in Chicago. She later taught at the American School in The Hague before moving to Minneapolis, where she owned a flower shop and now works as a decorator concentrating in interior and set design.

TO FUND social and cultural events, each student's tuition at one tiome included a \$20 activities fee that gave student government its budget. In the 1966-1967 school year, for example, student government worked with a \$13,600 budget that came from leftover funds and activities fees from students.

Student Council both allocated the budget funds assumed accountability for it, publishing both mid-year and end-of-year reports in the 1965-1966 school year that provided frank analyses of the Council's

actions during the school year and what could have been done better.

"When I came to U-High in 1964-1965, it had a very activist Student Council with a very close working relationship with the dean of students," said journalist, teacher and publications adviser Wayne Brasler, who in his first year also served as assistant dean of students. "Government officers their own offices where the art room near the cafeteria is now. It was a hierarchy of equals—the students and administrators worked as a team. Because they were equal, the students were inspired to be very adult and thoughtful about their decisions."

DURING THE 1966-1967 school year, a group calling itself the Laboratory Mutants published a newsletter that served as an alternative press, an underground newspaper. According to Bill Bradbury, Class of 1967, a member of the group the Mutants provided a counter to established student government.

"It was 1967, there was a war in Vietnam, and there is a real group of people, myself included, who were opposed to the war," Mr. Bradbury said in a phone interview. "There were war protests and a lot of people were afraid of being drafted. The Laboratory Mutants was a group of four or five students that fit right into this period in terms of being alternative and being in opposition to the normal way of thinking."

After leaving U-High, Mr. Bradbury worked in journalism before serving nine years as Oregon Secretary of State and running for governor of Oregon.

IN THE LATE '60s, at the height of the protest and counterculture era, Student Council voted to replace itself with a Student Legislative Coordinate Council (SLCC). An attempt to gain even more of a student voice in the school, SLCC had sole control over the allocation of student government funds and allowed any student to propose a bill to be voted on.

Approved by administrators and the faculty, the new SLCC constitution gave legislative powers to SLCC over noncurricular areas of the school, subject to administrative approval. The student body also had veto powers on bills the Council passed.

During this time, the SLCC also passed a proposal to establish May Project, conceived by the Class

of 1969 to enrich the senior year experience in the final month of school, and administrators and faculty eventually approved the proposal.

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY after the SLCC came to power, it attempted to become involved in a school budget crisis. After being sidelined by the administrators, the Council wrote an open letter to the director of the school questioning the administrative handling of budget issues and criticizing him for usurping the SLCC's power to advise faculty and administration.

Later in the year, SLCC made a proposal to the administration that would give students more of a hand in admissions, including putting an SLCC member on the Admissions Committee.

In the Spring of 1970, SLCC passed a Student Bill of Rights and passed it on to the administration for approval. Among other points, the proposed Bill aimed to give more influence in the school to the SLCC, including giving full or advisory positions on administrative and faculty committees to SLCC members.

SLCC's attempts to gain influence in the school continued in the 1970-1971 school year under president Erwin Chemerinsky.

AT THE TIME, only juniors and seniors had permission to leave campus during free periods. During the first three months of school, SLCC passed legislation to give off-campus privileges to all U-High students and to allow for a smoking area in the courtyard in between U-High and Belfield Hall. Principal Margaret Fallers vetoed both of these proposals, explaining that although the SLCC constitution gave it control over non-curricular areas of the school, matters involving student health and safety were subject administrative approval.

On December 15, 1970, SLCC passed a proposal for a pass-fail grade system for seniors in winter and spring quarter. The faculty rejected the proposal later in the year.

Early in 1971, SLCC passed a proposal to create a Committee on Rules composed of three teachers, three students and three administrators which would replace the Lab Schools director as ultimate authority on all High School rule changes, enforcement methods and other aspects of non-curricular student behavior.

IN RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL, Laboratory Schools Director Philip Jackson, a renowned educator and researcher, said he could not relinquish the authority over the school given to him by the University, but agreed that

When government presidents faced off with the Principal

By Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson
Associate editor

"At my U-High graduation in 1971, I had the distinction of being the only student who didn't shake hands with principal Margaret Fallers," 1970-1971 SLCC president Erwin Chemerinsky said in a recent phone interview. "The whole school year we fought over everything. She didn't put her hand to shake mine, and I didn't put my hand out to shake hers."

Mr. Chemerinsky first came to U-High on a scholarship in 1967 as a freshman. The first in his family to attend college, he went to Northwestern University and then received a J.D. at Harvard Law School.

After law school, Mr. Chemerinsky practiced law in Washington, D.C., before becoming a professor in 1980. He has argued multiple cases in front of the Supreme Court, including in front of U-High Alumnus and former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, written a number of legal books and articles, and helped draft the Belarus constitution. His work focuses on constitutional law and federal civil procedure. He currently works at University of California at Irvine, where he serves as dean of the Law School.

"**THE WHOLE YEAR**, the Principal and I argued after over one thing after another," Mr. Chemerinsky said. "She became increasingly frustrated with me and student government and I became increasingly frustrated with her. It was very tense and acrimonious. There were a lot of meetings, a lot of angry letters written to her and to the director of the school. I remember one time, in the auditorium next to the cafeteria (the Little Theater, now the Senior Lounge) we got into a heated public argument about the powers that



ERWIN
CHEMERINSKY
in 1972

student government should have."

"One fight we had was over whether we could have a board for students to post and write things freely. But I never got in trouble for speaking out against the principle or faced any sanctions from the school.

Student government's disputes with the administration also stretched to discipline.

"**LATER, SOME STUDENTS** got caught with drugs at school" Mr. Chemerinsky said. "At the time, there was a requirement that certain matters for discipline had to go to a particular committee on discipline. There were some black students who got caught, and some white students, and the administration went over the committee and gave the students unequal punishments. We fought them on this, of course."

Mr. Chemerinsky also believes that much of the struggle over student government's position during his time at U-High resulted from the era students were living in.

"We were a product of our environment," he observed. "We, the students, grew up in the 1960s during the anti-war era, while the administrators came from a much earlier time. They thought the role of student government was to plan parties, we believed it was to give students a voice."

REGARDLESS OF THE outcome of these disputes, Mr. Chemerinsky feels that it was important for students to be able to express their opinions.

"It's not that students should get to decide the rules and curriculum," he said. "Obviously, the running of a high school is left to the administration, but the students should have a voice in these decisions that administrators take seriously. Student government is that voice."

Steve Pitts, a member of the U-High Class of 1970, served as president of SLCC in the 1969-1970 school year. He remembers particularly the activism on the part of student government at U-High.

"There were two types of activism that we were involved in," Mr. Pitts said in a recent phone interview. "Activism in students having a say in how the school is run, and students getting involved in larger social activism."

AFTER GRADUATING from U-High, Mr. Pitts attended Harvard University. He later moved to moved to Houston to do worker organizing which included working in a steel factory. He later taught economics at Houston Community College while working to earn a PhD in the same field. He is currently the associate chair of the UC Berkeley Labor Center, where his research and work focus on improving quality of life for black workers.

"There was a lot of activism in terms of school stuff," Mr. Pitts said. "This was things like trying to eliminate the dress code in in the 1966-1967 school year, wanting to be consulted by the administration when certain disciplinary things happened, and managing budgets."

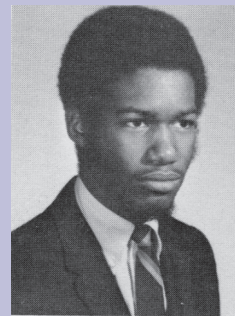
However, the social activism is what Mr. Pitts remembers focusing on principally.

"**STUDENT COUNCIL** had always been active in issues of student involvement and how the school is governed" he said. "But I remember that the major activism was in relation to issues outside of the school, like issues of war and civil rights. Often, trying to gain power within the school from the administration was kind of a fruitless endeavor. So many activists turned to larger social stuff and asked what they could do to change the world."

According to Mr. Pitts, these two types of activism were not always separate. "After the Kent State shootings in 1970, I remember the students organized a walkout," he said. "Another example of activism was when student government vice president Bob Jaffe taped to the wall lists of soldiers who died in Vietnam."

LIKE MR. CHEMERINSKY, Mr. Pitts feels that the student government having a voice is essential.

"Even though high school isn't a real life situation, student should be given the chance to make decisions that impact their lives," Mr. Pitts said. People should always have a say in how their lives are run. That's fundamental to society."



STEVE PITTS
In 1970



As the Midway sees it

School needs policy on political protest

Editorial cartoon by Kat Flocke

Open discussion has been a staple at U-High since the school was found. However, because of a recent decision to first permit and then prohibit an event supporting pro-Palestinian political activist Rasmea Odeh, numerous U-Highers have thrown up their arms in disgust. Many U-Highers do not agree with Odeh's actions before her arguably unfair trial. But they do believe a discussion about her at school would be valuable. Having a conversation makes sense. At a time when Mike Brown's death in Ferguson has garnered extreme national attention, a time when Eric Garner was choked by police and died in New York City, such issues need to be discussed. It does not matter who holds the "better" or "right" opinion on each issue. In most cases such a side does not exist. A chunk of U-Highers backed se-

nior Julia Mearsheimer in her efforts to support Rasmea Odeh during lunch in the cafeteria despite disagreeing with her stance. They believe that eliminating or even restricting free speech will only prove detrimental. But U-Highers must do what they do in every classroom and look at the other side of the equation. Few U-Highers would feel comfortable vocalizing opposition to Julia's views. Nobody did in the active Facebook conversation on "Overheard at U-High." Only a few even agreed to speak on the record with the Midway. This unwillingness to take unpopular views has proven an issue in many recent controversies. Few people have dared to vocally oppose the seemingly popular opinion that the policemen who killed Mike Brown and Eric Garner overstepped their boundaries. Some U-Highers do believe that the policemen did the jobs they had to

do. They just do not voice those views publicly. If only one side feels at ease speaking up, freedom of discussion does not exist. Freedom of speech means students feel they can take any stance without feeling threatened. This school prides itself on fostering active and healthy discussion on controversial issues. DICE has continually led the way in encouraging students to express their views on topics as controversial as affirmative action. But we need to distinguish in both action and in writing between an organized discussion and a political event occurring in a place U-Highers cannot avoid. The school needs to devise a logical and simple policy outlining what form protest can take in the school, regardless of the politics of the protest.. The next time this happens students should know what to expect.

Awards only tell part of the story in adviser's impact

By Mike Glick
Opinion columnist

The dictionary gives two definitions for adviser:
1. A person who gives advice, typically someone who is expert in a particular field.
2. In a school, college, or university, a teacher or staff counselor who helps a student plan a course of study.
It wouldn't surprise me to find a picture of Wayne Brasler, the living definition of an adviser, next to the definitions in a dictionary. SINCE THE first day I walked in the journalism office—then a scared freshman, barely five feet tall and with little self-confidence—Mr. Brasler has seen the best in me.



Mike

Right from the get-go he recognized my talents and weaknesses and quickly began pointing me to the great Midway reporters. He taught my classmates and me how to set goals, achieve them and set new, loftier goals each time. He never stopped pushing us, increasing his expectations everyday. More than anything, though, Mr. Brasler has fostered a tradition at U-High. Administrators may focus on the tradition of excellence and awards, but the real tradition extends far beyond that. WHEN I JOINED the Midway staff, excellence surrounded me. Sydney Scarlata, a member of the All-State Journalism Team her junior year, dedicated hours each week to mentoring the beginning journalists. Every editor in the office sat down with us if we needed help with anything, from slugging copy and writing headlines to studying for Ms. Shapiro's famously difficult geography test and getting through AAAT. I quickly came to appreciate that I had not joined a club. The journalism team, the J-Squad, brought me in as part of the family. Mr. Brasler became more than just a teacher to me, more than just an adviser. He became my friend. I ALWAYS THOUGHT I would return as an alumnus to speak with Mr. Brasler and see the same diligent Midway staff working away on deadline nights. Not many teachers can teach for over 50 years. Fewer still can make a distinct impact each day while fostering a legacy. I would say that Mr. Brasler has proven one of a kind, but Mr. Brasler despises clichés. We'll have to settle to say that he has not just lived the life of an adviser, but also defined what it truly means to be one.

Midway Mailbox

In Rasmea Odeh case, administrators cannot take sides

From Geri Ross, senior:

A recent planned rally at school in support of Rasmea Odeh has sparked controversy, as the administration struggled to decide whether to support this optional school event. As a private educational institution, the administration's support of this event that advocates for Rasmea Odeh makes the Lab School an institution that advocates opinions instead of dispensing information. Lab's decision to advocate instead of educate prevents Lab School from functioning as a safe environment conducive to learning. Rasmea Odeh was recently con-



Geri

victed by a federal jury in Detroit of illegally procuring naturalization by falsely answering questions about whether she ever had been convicted or imprisoned. In 1970, Odeh was convicted in Israel of involvement in the 1969 supermarket bombing in Jerusalem in which two Hebrew University students were killed, and another attempted bombing of the British Consulate. Even though Odeh was given a life sentence, after ten years, she was released by Israel in a large-scale prisoner swap for an Israeli soldier captured in Lebanon. Odeh was convicted of falsifying answers on her immigration application because she did not disclose her Israeli conviction and imprisonment. Supporters of Odeh claim she was tortured by the Israeli military into con-

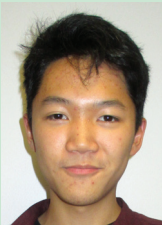
fessing to being apart of the planning of two terrorist bombings in Jerusalem, and the American justice system did not give Rasmea Odeh a fair trial because Americans have a strong Israeli bias. Pro-Palestinian activist groups around the country have taken up Rasmea Odeh's case as an example of Americans trying to intimidate and oppress Palestinians. There have been many people fighting for and against Rasmea Odeh's release, but one thing they all agree on is that this case is not just about Rasmea Odeh, but also about the larger Israel versus Palestine conflicts. Just as Lab School would never advocate for a particular political candidate, so too Lab should not take a side in the Israel vs. Palestine debate about Rasmea Odeh.



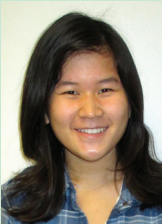
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Quick Q

What are you most looking forward to about being a second-quarter senior?



Jeessae



Anna

JEESAE KIM: First and foremost, I look forward to the full nights of sleep. It's been a long four years of irregular sleep and I'm excited to finally reap the benefits of being a senior. I'll also be done with all of this college nonsense, so I'll have the time to do the things I want to do.

IVANA JURETA: I'm most looking forward to the hectic and stressful time of applying to colleges to be over. Second quarter will be more relaxed, leaving time to hang out with friends and just enjoy senior year.

ANNA KNES: I'm looking forward to the college application process to be over. I'm also looking forward to Senior Getaway because, who isn't?

MAX BROWN: I'm looking forward to checking out completely. I'm kind of joking but not really.



Ivana



Max

—Compiled by Mike Glick

Cozy winter fashions



Simple yet classic, Nigel Van Ha stays cozy in a Bossini sweater and Uniqlo pants while Ilana Dutton stands out in a holiday floral babydoll dress from American Apparel.



Inspired by winter, Katie Adlaka and Jarrett Lampley stay warm in snowflake knit sweaters from Finn & Clover and Of all Threads.



Formal and seasonal, Eamonn Keenan and Taylor Thompson dress up in a J Crew sweater with Levis pants and an Urban Outfitters mistletoe dress.

Story and photos by Alex Thompson

Sporting comfy holiday sweaters and multiple layers, U-Highers plan to brave another Chicago winter balancing fashion and comfort.

Trying to keep her personal style despite the cold, senior Katie Adlaka adds color to her holiday outfits.

“Winter is a hard season to dress for,” senior Katie Adlaka observed. “You want to express your style, but at the same time you want to be warm and comfortable. Dresses are my go-to outfit before the snow hits and then I switch to fuzzy sweaters and ugs to survive the cold days.”

Similarly sophomore Alex Lund said, “In the Spring I like to wear lighter, more flow-y pieces, whereas in the Winter I love layering darker pieces and sweaters. Function over fashion, in this case staying warm in the winter is a top priority for me.”

Senior Jarrett Lampley said he likes to pair comfort and active wear.

“I’m all being comfortable,” he explained, “so I would say my general style is really casual.

“Some days I’ll wear nicer sweaters and khakis and maybe some sperrys, but I also like to tone it down and wear some adidas soccer pants, gyn shoes and an athletic sweater.

“In terms of fashion I am all over the place.”



While Schuler Small enjoys comfort in one of his Dad’s old sweaters with a grey button-up and hunter green chinos from J Crew, Whitney Thomas stands out in a Club Monaco color-blocked skirt and J Crew blouse.



thestar.com

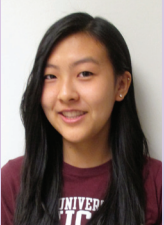
Deepak Chopra (Vinay Virmani) talks to his girlfriend, Natalie Wilman (Adrianne Palicki), atop his infamous yellow taxi.

Health care in a cab

By Elizabeth Chon
Film critic

Pulling medicines and instruments from the seat pockets of his taxi, a taxi driver from New Delhi, India, living in Canada welcomes his next patient into his yellow mobile medical unit.

Directed by Jean-François Pouliot, “Dr. Cabbie” (PG-13) opens when Deepak Chopra (Vinay Virmani) passes the Indian medical exam certifying him to work as a physician. Looking to start a new life, he decides to emigrate with his mother to Toronto, Ontario, and moves in with his aunt and uncle. Chopra applies to several hospitals with high hopes, looking forward to starting his career as a physician.



Elizabeth

HE IS TURNED AWAY every time because he received his medical training in India. As a last resort, he becomes a taxi driver after being persuaded by his new Indian cabbie friend, Tony (Kunal Nayyar). After unexpectedly delivering a baby in the back of his cab one stormy evening, Chopra becomes famous after a video of the incident (shot by Tony) goes viral online.

Receiving dozens of phone calls from people seeking convenient access to health care, Chopra’s finds his life taking a sharp turn as he begins providing medical care to passengers full-time, storing prescription medicines in the glove compartment and reclining the passenger seat as an examination table.

Between slapstick humor, romantic moments and crazy adventures with his fellow cabbies, the film turns the serious topic of immigration and the struggles of job hunting into an effervescent comedy-drama mix.

“**DR. CABBIE**” is Pouliot’s third comedy film; he previously directed Canadian films “Le Grande Seduction” (2003) and “The Little Book of Revenge” (2006). Pouliot chose an energetic and talented cast, working with co-producer and Bollywood star Salman Khan. The film was shot in India and Canada, the first few scenes taking place in his hometown, New Delhi.

From Bollywood tunes with fast, rhythmic drumbeats to electronic dance and pop songs, the music for the film supports its lively, spirited nature. As Chopra and his mother adjust to a new culture, the film utilizes every opportunity for humor, from Chopra’s driving on the wrong side of the road to accidentally going to the women’s bathroom before his job interview.

INDO-CANADIAN ACTOR Vinay Virmani co-wrote and starred in hockey-based comedy “Breakaway” (2011), and also starred in the Hindi action movie “David” (2013). Despite Virmani’s short history in the film industry, “Dr. Cabbie” demonstrates his remarkable talent, as his role ranges from serious and emotional to carefree and cheerful. Famed for his role as astrophysicist Raj Koothrappali on CBS’s sitcom “The Big Bang Theory,” Kunal Nayyar’s experience with comedy benefits his role as Tony.

With an ebullient demeanor and a goofy smile, he keeps viewers laughing with his crude jokes and cheap pick-up lines. Although many films deal with immigration and job searching struggles, what makes “Dr. Cabbie” notable is its comedic yet heartwarming appeal, attracting thousands of teen and adult moviegoers.

Legendary Valois offers quick, delicious dining, homey feel

By Raghu Somala
Dining columnist

Muzak, wi-fi, and a modern look. Valois has none of those.

Valois, on 1518 East 53rd Street, doesn’t resemble anything close to the new establishments of Harper Court. No, Valois is a cafeteria-style, short order, steam table eatery where nothing, from the prices to the atmosphere, seems to have changed since it first opened in 1921. But why is this old restaurant’s peak hour lines longer than Chipotle’s?

Best known for its traditional American breakfasts and open from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Valois attracts lines going out the door most days, but you can get through the line in about five minutes.

IT’S SIMPLE REALLY. Grab a tray, and talk to the first person behind the counter, who is usually the cook. Order either breakfast, lunch, dinner, or something else from the seven unique daily specials. They serve everything from omelets to daily rotating lunch specials and sides of beef, pork and prime rib, all roasted on-site, most under

seven dollars. Don’t forget cash, because they don’t accept credit cards.

It is the best breakfast place I have ever been to. Even on a Wednesday at 7 a.m. peak hour, my cheese omelet and potatoes, prepared under five minutes, tasted delicious.

Fresh off the griddle with the perfect combination of salty and starchy, crunchy exterior with a soft inside, the hash browns blew me away. But it isn’t just the quality or the size of the food that attracts so many Hyde Parkers to stand in line.

IS IT THE BACKGROUND of plates being washed or the sizzle of a chicken breast on the grill? Certainly it isn’t the cafeteria look, with painted wall murals and large number of people buzzing about, right? Maybe I’m looking at this wrong. Yes.

It is the cafeteria atmosphere that attracts them. Valois took me back to the times of elementary and middle school, where one’s background didn’t matter, and could converse with anyone.

I watched as two complete strangers sat at the same table willingly without any awkwardness. There was no resentment for disturbing their solitude, in fact they welcomed company, sharing their day’s stories.

VALOIS SHOWED ME Hyde Park as more



Photo by Della Brown

After surveying the amazing array of choices at Valois, Hyde Park’s legendary cafeteria, Dining columnist Raghu Somala decides on an omelet with hash browns, quickly prepared and beautifully presented.

than a collection of streets I go to get to school. The three times I went there, I sat with a Church priest, a construction worker from 55th street, and finally a teacher from William H. Ray Elementary School. I experienced the community that is Hyde Park.



Raghu

‘Motivated’ boys’ basketballers capture tourney crown

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and sports editor

After capturing the Lisle Thanksgiving Tournament crown November 29 under new coach Rob Ley, the boys’ basketball team will travel north to Parker today to take on the Colonels at 6 p.m. The Maroons defeated Lisle 51-38 November 25, beat Timothy Christian 50-28 November 28 and took down Perspectives Charter 50-33 November 29 to capture the tourney crown. Senior Jordan Moran and sophomore Jameel Alausa received All-Tournament Team Honors. After defeating MPA and playing Elgin to begin conference play (results came after Midway press time), U-High will look to maintain momentum from last season’s 12-0 ISL record. “Parker is always a tough matchup for us because it’s a rivalry game, so they give their maximum effort,” senior Ben Rhind said. “It’s not an easy game. We don’t have the same core as last year. There are six new guys, so it’s a really good sign for us that we came together so quickly. In years past we could rely on feeding Max Rothschild in the post. Without having that clear num-

ber one option, it forces us to play unselfishly. No one is concerned about stats. We care about winning.” During Winter Break the Maroons will compete in the McDipper Holiday Tournament, a stage for the area’s top teams. “It is a huge test for us,” Ben said. “That will show us where we are against the best teams in the state. We can make a run in 3A. Last year, running into Bogan, we got a bit unlucky. But I think we can match up with any team.” Rob Ley has assumed coaching duties this year, assisted by Armel Traore dit Nignan. “This is our fourth coach in four years for Jordan and me, but a lot of what Coach Ley has brought is a balance between pushing us and supporting us,” Ben said. “Coach Traore has been a great addition, too.” According to Jordan, the Maroons have used an underdog mentality as fuel. “People underestimate us so much,” he said. “After the losses of Max, Logan Crowl, Jaquell Hamelin, Caleb Dowdy and Jon King, no one expected anything of us. That’s what keeps us motivated. No one really expects us to do that well.”



Photo by Jarrett Lampley
As Morgan Park Academy players defend him tightly, Caleb Hill looks for a pass in the Maroons’ win over the Warriors December 9 at home.

‘Familiar face’ leads fencers to success in new coaching role

By Clyde Schwab
Associate editor
After a successful tournament showing at New Trier High School December 6, the fencing team will travel to the Homewood-Flossmoor tournament this Saturday. Led by coach Bakyht Abdikulov, the Maroons performed well in the three previous tournaments, with senior Jennifer Chien and junior Daphne Schneewind and sophomores Athena Chien and Janine Liu all placing among the top of their respective groups.

AT THE Catholic Memorial Invitational November 22, sophomore Danny Kim placed 7th of 80 in men’s sabre. Ahead, the team will attend the Culver Academy Midwest Open on January 17 and the Great Lakes Fencing Championships. At the recent New Trier tournament, the team faced New Trier, Maine West and Deerfield, with women’s foil going undefeated. According to junior Nikita Dulin, an experienced member of the team, the men’s sabre’s showing against New Trier’s fencing team proved surprising. “We lost, but the score was 6-10, which for me was a surprise since I wasn’t expecting to do well,” Nikita said. “The tournament went by very quickly and on time. The referees that the men’s team had were pretty reasonable. I went 12-3 which I’m very happy with. The first bout I lost, I wasn’t happy about that, but, with the wins against New Trier, I can’t be too upset. I went 3-1 against them, as did Danny Kim.” **TEAM CAPTAIN** Jennifer Chien also pointed to the Maroons’ success

at New Trier as a positive sign moving forward this season. “The team did really well,” she said. “We’ve been practicing a lot and the new fencers are really committed to putting in the time and practice needed. A big part of fencing is remembering that no matter how far gone the game is, there is never a point where you can’t at least give your opponent a run for their money. “I think that in this last tournament, people viewed it more as a team effort. People on the team have been cheering each other on more. I think that the encouragement of the team helps people take risks. I’ve been trying to give pep talks, because in tournaments the fact that only the top eight get awards out of 80 means that many won’t be recognized. Because of that, its easy to lose sight of the fun side of a tournament.” **JUNIOR NORA LIN** agreed that success at the New Trier tournament boosted team spirit. “In general I think this tournament really brought everyone closer together,” Nora said. “At one point everyone on saber was cheering for Wilson and when he won the bout there was a roar of applause. I was suprised by myself for winning some bouts since I haven’t fenced foil in a year. I felt nervous but my teammates were super supportive and their faith that I could win motivated me to really push myself. “As a team, we are trying to work on point control. A lot of the new fencers on the team have been inspired by Danny. Personally, I want to get top eight this year and help the new epee fencers get top 32.” **LAST YEAR’S CAPTAIN**, graduate Elle Hill, is now assistant coach. “Its nice having a familiar face as the new assistant coach,” Nora said. “Last year, she always fenced with a lot of passion and drive. Having her around the new fencers creates a motivating, friendly atmosphere.”

New coach has dance team moving to new beats, styles

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and sports editor
New coach. New moves. Under the tutelage of new coach Miranda Cherkas, Dance Team has adopted new techniques this year. “The captains this year, Whitney and I, have really focused on rebuilding the team as a whole,” Maryam said. “With a new coach, we’ve been able to give the team a new format this year. I would say there’s a good distribution of members per grade. “Our coach is a fourth-year at the Univesity of Chicago, and she’s been dancing since she was about 3. She did ballet her whole life and was very classically trained, but before college

she started doing more hip-hop stuff.” Maryam says the team has implemented modern techniques to refine their form. “There’s dance techniques and practice and timeliness stuff. Technique-wise we’ve done a lot more modern training that only classical dancers would typically do. That will really improve our form. Our coach takes attendance now, so it’s very structured. We’ve also done workshops on specific styles of dance. Students from the U. of C. will help us out with that. “We’re doing music that’s very identifiable. There’s more music that the crowd will know of at the basketball games.”

Star player takes on scoring duties, keeps focus on team

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor
Off to a slow start, the 1-4 girls’ basketball team will have no shortage of opportunities to bounce back, with the Mather Holiday tournament, a stretch of five games in five nights, tipping off tonight against Keylvn Park High School in the Mather High School Gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. Seniors Kasey Kozak and Kendall Rallins, juniors Autumn Espinosa, Helen He and Fu-Cheng Jansen and freshman Roxanne Nesbitt have started games for the Maroons. The Maroons are coached by John Moran, in his first year here. James Rook serves as the team’s assisant coach. **THE MAROONS DEFEATED** the conference rival North Shore Raiders 38-29 this past Wednesday in Upper Kovler. Senior captain Kendall Rallins believes the battle against the Raiders proved a good test. “It was our first conference game and also our first win of the season,” Kendall said. “The score stayed close for the majority of the game with neither team holding a lead of more than eight until the final score. It was a big team win, with everybody contributing.” The Maroons are a young team, so Kendall understands that growing

pains will emerge. She has proven up to maintaining the brunt of the scoring load for the interim, but has focused on helping the team’s young core to grow and improve together. **“MY ROLE** this year is to be a leader,” Kendall said. “We have a young team so as captain and one of the few seniors on the team, I have to shoulder more of the load. “While, I’ve been asked to score a bit more this year, my role as a leader is the most important to our team. I want us to grow together as a team. Like I said, we have a really young team so their overall development is the number one concern. “I want us to build a foundation of success this year that lasts beyond the years I spend here.” **WHILE SHE** may insist that the Maroons have emphasized the future, how fast these underclassmen grow up will prove crucial in deciding how far this team can go. “Our team’s success is really going to be determined by the play of our underclassmen,” Kendall said. “Specifically, some key freshmen. The quicker they can grow up and find their rhythm, the better we’ll be. We can be in a lot of games this season but what’ll push us over the top is them.”

Long workouts paying dividends for junior-laden swim squad

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor
After a commanding showing at the Lincoln-Way West Pentathlon December 5, boy swimmers will make the trek to Northside College Prep to square off against the Mustangs tomorrow at 5 p.m. According to junior Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest, the team’s performance at the pentathlon proved “absolutely dominating.” **“WE’VE ONLY** had one meet so far with that being the Lincoln-Way West Pentathlon,” Fabrice said (the December 12 meet against Latin came after press time). “Reavis, Mt. Carmel and Lincoln-Way West were our competition. “We absolutely destroyed. We’d never won the meet before and ended up winning this by a full 200 points. Sophomore Eamonn Keenan came in first place, junior Jason Lin came in second, Nigel in fourth and I came in seventh. It was a great showing.” U-High continues to have its sights ahead with big match-ups on the horizon. Fabrice says he also has goals for himself this season. **“FOR THE TEAM,** I think we re-

ally want to do well against Latin and Whitney Young,” Fabrice said. “Whitney Young especially, I have not heard of a time in U-High history where we beat them. My personal goals are to retain my spot on the 100-medley relay and hopefully challenge the school breast stroke record. That record is the last remaining from 1968. All the others are from 2014.” Many of U-High’s swimmers grew up swimming together for Midway Aquatics. To Fabrice, this is just an extension of that. “Last year a couple of new swimmers joined the team, adding to what already was a very solid base,” Fabrice explained. “Many of us have made a year round commitment to the sport. I think what this year has been is us all just growing up a year and improving together.” **EVEN AFTER** U-High’s masterful opener, the Maroons continue to have the pedal pressed to the metal. “We are swimming a lot,” Fabrice continued with emphasis. “Lately we’ve been opting for very long sets as opposed to sprint sets. Its just a way to get us in shape as some of us came in to the season a little out of shape.”

Fall teams break records, set new statistical marks

Compiled by Luke Murphy, sports editor, and Mike Glick, Editor-in-Chief

Boys' Soccer

Despite losses in the ISL Championship and Regional Semifinal, the boys' varsity soccer team compiled a 7-7-3 record, placing 2nd in the ISL. JV soccermen won four ISL games en route to the ISL crown and 4-10 record overall.

Bolingbrook, August 26, away: Varsity lost 4-1; **Lane Tech**, August 26, home: JV lost 2-1; **Bloom**, August 28, at Bolingbrook High School: Varsity lost 2-0; **De La Salle**, August 30, at Reavis High School: Varsity won 2-0; **Riverside-Brookfield**, September 4, home: Varsity tied 1-1, JV lost 2-0; **Elgin**, September 9, home: Varsity won 8-0; **Mount Carmel**, September 10, away: Varsity lost 1-0, JV lost 7-4; **Northridge**, September 12, away: Varsity won 1-0; **Latin**, September 16, home: Varsity won 4-0, JV won 1-0; **De La Salle**, September 20, away: Varsity tied 1-1, JV lost 3-1; **Uno Charter Garcia**, September 22, home: Varsity won 7-0, JV lost 4-1; **Northridge**, September 23, home: JV won 2-0; **Parker**, September 26, away: Varsity lost 1-0, JV won 3-0; **MPA**, September 30, away: Varsity won 6-0; **Uno**, September 30, away: JV lost 7-0; **Northridge**, October 1, away: JV lost 2-1; **North Shore**, October 8, home: Varsity tied 1-1; **Romeoville**, October 8, away: JV lost 7-0; **Latin**, October 9, away: Varsity won 3-0; **Brother Rice**, October 11, away: Varsity won 1-0, JV lost 1-0; **St. Ignatius**, October 14, away: Varsity lost 3-1; **Solorio**, October 17, home: Varsity lost 4-0, JV :pst 7-0; **Kennedy**, October 22, home: Varsity lost 1-1 (5-4 in penalty kicks).

Girls' Volleyball

Seeking another Regional Championship, the girls' volleyball team received the unlucky draw of Chicago Christian. The loss capped an 18-8 season for the Maroons.

Rich East, August 28, home: Varsity won 25-12, 25-14; **IC Catholic Prep**, August 29, away: Varsity lost 14-25, 25-27; **Timothy Christian**, August 29, away: Varsity won 25-17, 26-

24; **Harvest Christian Academy**, August 29, away: Varsity won 25-21, 25-22; **Elmwood Park**, August 30, away: Varsity won 25-17, 25-16; **St. Edward**, August 30, away: Varsity lost 12-25, 19-25; **Willows**, September 9, away: Varsity won 25-8, 25-17; **Agricultural Science**, September 12, away: Varsity lost 25-14, 19-25, 21-25; **Latin**, September 16, home: Varsity lost 13-25, 22-25; **Luther North**, September 20, away: Varsity won 25-14, 25-10; **Mooseheart**, September 20, away: Varsity won 25-11, 25-11; **Walther Christian Academy**, September 20, away: Varsity won 25-14, 25-23; **MPA**, September 20, away: Varsity won 25-23, 25-21; **Aurora Christian**, September 20, away: Varsity lost 22-25, 17-25; **Blue Island Eisenhower**, September 23, away: Varsity won 25-21, 25-22, 26-24; **Morgan Park Academy**, September 27, away: Varsity lost 22-25, 25-23, 18-25; **Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart**, September 30, away: Varsity won 25-23, 28-26; **North Shore Country Day**, October 7, home: Varsity won 25-14, 25-15; **Noble Street College Prep**, October 10, home: Varsity won: 25-8, 25-8; **Parker**, October 14, home: Varsity won: 25-5, 25-6; **Cristo Rey Jesuit**, October 17, home: Varsity won: 25-9, 25-15; **Elgin Academy**, October 18, away: Varsity won: 25-20, 26-24; **Agricultural Science**, October 21, home: Varsity won: 25-19, 20-25, 25-16; **Rich East**, October 24, away: Varsity won: 25-11, 25-19; **Carver**, October 28, Neutral Varsity won: 25-9, 25-7; **Chicago Christian**, October 30, Neutral: Varsity lost: 13-25, 20-25.

Golf

ISL vs MSC Challenge, August 20, away: Varsity lost; **Chicagoland Jewish High School**, August 26, away: Varsity won; **Latin School**, September 16, away: Varsity lost; **ISL Tri-Match with Elgin @ Parker**, September 20, away: Varsity lost; **ISL Tri-Match with NSCD and NRP**, September 23, home: Varsity lost; **ISL Tri-Match with NSCD and NRP**, August 22, home: Varsity lost; **ISL Championships @ Cog-Hill #3**, September 30, away: Varsity lost.

Girl's Tennis

Jacobs Tournament, August 30, away: 4th overall; **Sandburg HS**, September 3, home: Varsity lost 2-3; **Marian Catholic High School**, September 6, away: Varsity won 5-0; **Latin School**, September 9, away: Varsity lost 0-5; **Woodlands**, September 16, away: Varsity won 5-0; **Mother McAuley**, September 18, home:

Varsity won 3-2 **Walter Payton Prep**, September 22, home: Varsity won 4-1; **Niles West Quad**, September 27, away: 1st place overall; **Elgin Academy**, September 30, away: Varsity won 5-0; **St. Ignatious**, October 1, home: Varsity lost 1-4; **Morgan Park Academy**, October 6, home: Varsity won 4-1; **F.W. Parker**, October 7, home: Varsity won 5-0; **North Shore Country Day School**, October 8, home: Varsity won 3-2; **ISL Championship Meet**, October 9, away: 2nd place; **IHSA Sectional Day 1**, October 17, home: 2nd place.

Cross Country

St. Ignatious, August 30, away: Jacob Meyer finished the two-mile in 10-minutes, 14-seconds, Charlie Sowerby in 11-minutes, 51-seconds; **St. Patrick Invitational, September 3**, away: Jacob ran the three-mile in 16-minutes, 22-seconds and placed first overall, the girls' team placed 4th overall; **Fenton HS Invitational - 34th Annual Early Bird Classic**, September 6, away: Elsa Erling, Liza Libes and Isabella Khan all finished in under 22 minutes; **First to the Finish Invitational**, September 13, away; **St. Ignatious Invitational**, September 20, away: top five boys' runners all finished under 20 minutes; **Whitney Young Invitational**, September 27, away: girls' team placed third; **Latin Roman Invitational**, October 9, away: girls' team placed second; **ISL Championships**, October 16, home; **U-High Chicago - Bud James Invitational**, October 21, home; **IHSA 2A Regional Championship**, October 25, home; **IHSA 2A Sectional Championship**, November 1, away; **IHSA 2A State Championship**, November 8, away: Jacob placed 27th, finishing the three-mile in fifteen-minutes, 11-seconds, Elsa Erling led the girls' team with a 19-minute, three-second three-mile.

Girls' Swimming

Illinois Math and Science, September 16, away; **Riverside-Brookfield Invitational**, September 20, away; **St. Francis HS-Wheaton**, September 23, home; **Lane Technical High School**, October 7, away; **University High-Urbana**, October 11, away; **Maine East Invitational**, October 18, away; **St. Ignatious,October 21** home; **Latin Roman Invitational**, October 25, away; **Whitney Young**, October 28, home; **ISU Red Bird Invitational**, November 8, away; **IHSA Sectional Championships**, November 15, away: the Maroons placed 4th, breaking three records at the meet.

0.33

Goals against average for soccermen in ISL play

3

Varsity records broken by girl swimmers at IHSA Sectionals

15:11

Time needed for Jacob Meyer to run the State course

18

Number of wins for the girls' volleyball team

Baseball in Winter air

By Luke Murphy
Sports columnist

In the middle of December, there was chatter in the hall that U-Highers aren't used to hearing. Talk Chicagoans aren't used to hearing. Talk I'm not used to hearing.

Talk of baseball.

The futility of Chicago baseball is well documented. The Chicago White Sox began as a franchise in 1904 and have three championships, won in 1906, 1917 and 2005. The Cubs, dubbed the 'Lovable Losers,' have two championships, won in their first two years as a franchise, 1907 and 1908. The next 106 years? Well everybody knows how that went.

And yet, coming off a year in which both the Cubs and White Sox finished with 89 losses, there is talk of baseball. On a day that I can see my breath. There is baseball in the air.

On December 11 the White Sox ac-

quired right-handed pitcher Jeff Samardzija, an ex-Cub., and soon after acquired reliever David Robertson.

The Cubs would not be outdone. One day later, they had agreed on terms with left-handed pitcher Jon Lester on a seven-year, 155 million dollar contract, announcing their intentions to compete in 2015.

Lifelong Cubs fan Benny Friedman, senior, sees the Lester signing as the start of an exciting time for Cubs fans.

"I think the Jon Lester signing shows the front office's seriousness about winning these next few years," Benny said. "It signals the opening of the World Series window. He provides a true ace and leadership to a team who's key to success required just those two things."

Ben Glick, junior, sees the White Sox acquisitions as a big step.

"Samardzija is an elite right-hander, something our already good starting rotation was clearly missing," Ben said. "He will be a very solid number two. Robertson proved he can hold leads and close games in New York. I think he's what our bullpen needs."



Luke

First-year varsity squash team grabs early win over Lake Forest Academy

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and sports editor

With squash, the fourth year has proven the charm.

After three years as a club sport at U-High, the squash team now will compete as a varsity team. Led by captain Anna Knes, senior, the squad has accrued more than 20 members, including freshman John Grissom and sophomore Hyder Mohyuddin, who both had extensive previous experience playing squash.

The Maroons competed in their first tournament December 6 at Lake For-

est Academy and defeated LFA.

"As the team got more serious we started to play with MetroSquash in tournaments and David Kay, the executive director at Metrosquash, really helped turn our club into a team," Anna said. "After three years, we proposed to Athletic Director Ribbens that it should become a varsity sport.

"We're trying to get as many games in as possible to give players a good idea of what an official game is like. I think my goal for the team is to get this to be a Lab varsity sport that sticks."

Luscious dining at a practical price!



Photo by Della Brown

After a tough day of testing during the final days of fall quarter, Milo Dandy looks forward to a fresh fruit smoothie.

Authentic Asian cuisine has never been easier to get. With the winter season right around the corner, De Rice provides cover from the harsh weather and offers warm savory dishes for the hungry stomach. Stop in today!



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Photo by Francine Almeda

Shortly after entering the 19th anual Christkindlmarket at the Daley Plaza between Washington, Clark and Dearborn Street, Benny Friedman asks to see several nutcrackers at the first stand he encounters. Recreating a festival which originated in Germany in 1545, the Chicago event debuted in 1996.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Stopping on State Street to observe the 47th annual Marshall Field's holi-day windows continued by its successor, Macy's, Benny Friedman, left, Della Brown and Clay Surmeier reminisce about the letters they sent to Santa. The colorful display depicts children at a mailbox on a snowy day.

Holiday joy in the Windy City

By Averie Miller
Midway reporter

Carols and bells echo through Daley Plaza along with aromas of nuts and cheese. A brass quartet comprised of a trombone player, a baritone player and two trumpet players switches between traditional Christmas carols and Jamaican tunes, creating a unique sound. A 57-foot Christmas tree decked with red and green ornaments towers over pedestrians. Accompanying the Christmas decorations, an 18-foot metal menorah is displayed in front of the shops.

Christkindlmarket is an annual open-air Christmas festival located in downtown Chicago (and this year, for the first time, west suburban Oakbrook Center) where families can enjoy classic German dining, shopping and Christmas dec-

orations. First held in Chicago in 1996 on Pioneer Court, this is the 19th time the festival has been held in Chicago.

Excited to shop for unique crafts and try out new foods, junior Ariel Gans goes to the Christkindlmarket during the holidays with her parents and twin sister.

"I've gone to Christkindlmarket every year since I could walk," Ariel said. "I look forward to it and it's free admission, so I go multiple times each season. It has this mix of local charm and international style to it that I've never seen anywhere else. It's so cool to see so many foods that I've never heard of from all over the globe like Germany and Poland. I always walk out with some intricate hand-made craft, and I get a lot of gifts for my friends there. It's my favorite way to get into the holiday spirit."



Photo by Francine Almeda

After eating at the market, Benny Friedman and Clay Surmeier swung by the Toni Bavarian Lederhosen Bear stand. Benny and Clay finally bought two bears for \$30 to be wrapped as Christmas prsents.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Calling his friends over to see the Santa's Workshop window at Macy's, Benny Friedman continues down State Street on a windy, frigid day last week. By the weekend, temperatures warmed.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Traditional potato pancakes with applesauce and sour cream and hot cider delight Benny and Clay after they snagged a coveted table in the market.



Photo by Anna Funk

Mary Brady gazes up at the Christkindlmarket Christmas tree, one of the many attractions at the Daley Plaza. The market offer its German and other international specialties until December 23.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Searching for the newest addition to her Christmas tree, Alex Thompson rummages through traditional German tree ornaments. Prices for the ornaments range from \$5 to \$20 and are predominantly golden.



Photo by Anna Funk

Puppetteers and their puppets brave the cold to put on shows for holiday shoppers on Michigan Avenue. Bundled up customers flock to the blaring cartoonish music, dancing puppets and colorfully painted backdrop.



Photo by Anna Funk

A brass quartet comprised of a trombone player, a baritone player and two trumpet players alternate between traditional Chrimstmas carols and upbeat Jamaican tunes down the stree from the Daley Center.