

First day brings variety of changes

Though the new arts building opened, a temporary cafeteria structure on Kenwood Mall will not open for student use until Sept. 14

BY GRACE ANDERSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In a flurry of final classroom preparations, around the clock movers, and last minute decision-making, construction workers and administrators alike prepared to open the entire building to students on the first day of school. While Gordon Parks Arts Hall did open to student on the first day, the temporary cafeteria located in Kenwood Mall will not open until Sept. 14.

Acting Associate Principal Frances Spaltro explained that the cafeteria construction is not quite completed and the building does not have the necessary occupancy permits from the City of Chicago to allow students to eat there this week. Students are expected to eat either in classrooms or off campus as the ban on eating in the hallway will not be lifted during this time.

Before the week began, Ms. Spaltro and the rest of the administration hoped that students would be able to bring bag lunches so that students did not overwhelm the Booth School. She also suggested that students who were unable to pack lunch head to 57th Street. UH 103, 104 and 106 were set aside for students to eat in this week and Mr. Wildeman also opened his room, 320 in Gordon Parks Arts Hall, this week.

In addition to the lunchtime chaos the cafeteria mishaps brought, first day locker assignments brought on their own set of challenges since students were unable to access their lockers until Monday night, Sept. 7.

"Because of the level of activity in the halls, and the pace and level of work that needed to get done we couldn't allow students in the hallways," Ms. Spaltro said. "It's a safety issue more than anything else. All lockers that were in the basement are now on the first and second floors. But all those lockers that were brought up, they're not in order. It's going to be a bit of a scavenger hunt, except there's no

prize at the end."

For someone new to the high school this year, like new junior Amar Shabeeb, getting settled on the first day proved a bit difficult.

"It was actually really hard to find my locker because it was one of the ones that was out of order," Amar said. "So, that was sort of a difficult. I was looking around for an hour, and bunch of people had helped me find it."

Once she found her locker though, Amar settled in quickly to the U-High community.

"Most of my classes were small, which I liked," Amar explained. "I really liked Mr. Saez. He was funny in physics class, so I think it'll be a fun class."

For the past few weeks, 24-hour movers prepped classrooms, window washers cleaned floor-to-ceiling windows, and workmen finished flooring in the new Gordon Parks Arts Hall. All students had access to the high ceilings, natural lighting, and clean, modern look of this building on the first day of school. Students also had access to the building for a first-day assembly that involved speeches, a poem recitation, Bel Canto performance and a serenade from orchestra students.

"I would encourage students and faculty to go over there to explore the beautiful new building" requested Ms. Spaltro. "Teachers may still be unpacking and workers are still finishing up a few things, but full use of the building will come soon."

Even in its uncompleted state, the new Gordon Parks Art Hall brings great joy and excitement to faculty like orchestra teacher Rosalyn Torto.

"We were able to gain access to the arts hall from the first day of planning week," Ms. Torto said. "It's definitely humbling to have access to such a space — it's aesthetically just beautiful and acoustically outstanding. We're slightly overwhelmed, but we're so excited for the students to be in the space. I think it's going to be very inspiring for them."

Ms. Torto also noticed how faculty and staff around U-High came together when preparing for the new year.

"We had to have the arts peo-



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

YEARBOOK HANDOUT. One pleasant change this year: the yearbook staff members handed out the 2015 yearbook on the first day of school for the first time in recent years. Junior Katherine Zhang hands yearbooks to laughing seniors Mira Jacobs and Jamie Williams outside of Rowley Library. Departing from previous years, yearbook staffers finished the yearbook in the first week of summer, just after school finished in June.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY NIKITA DULIN

FIRST DAY ASSEMBLY. During the first meeting at the new Assembly Hall in Gordon Parks Arts Hall, Laboratory Schools Director Robin Appleby speaks about the importance of the arts. Ms. Appleby included in her speech a quote from philosopher and Laboratory Schools founder John Dewey: that art is "the most effective form of communication that exists."

ple moved over, the music tower moved, and journalism moved. It's kind of like a domino effect. I would say the faculty really rallied around one another. From construction workers to the administrators, teachers and staff, everyone has been really supportive. People have just come together."

As an Advanced Drawing and Painting student this year, senior Monica Lewis is excited to have the opportunity to take advantage

of the state-of-the-art space that Gordon Parks Arts Hall offers.

"I'm interested in seeing the building and how they've updated the space and the materials we'll get to use. It's nice to see how much thought that's really put into it. The fact that they built a space specifically for the arts is exciting because it shows how the school is investing in that part of our education as well, instead of just the academic side."

"It's definitely humbling to have access to such a space — it's aesthetically just beautiful and acoustically outstanding. We're slightly overwhelmed, but we're so excited for the students to be in the space. I think it's going to be very inspiring for them."

— Rosalyn Torto, music teacher

In addition to a new building, the U-High community welcomed 33 new students, including 29 members of the Class of 2019, one new member of the Class of 2018 and three new members of the Class of 2017.

Student Council will select students to fill vacancies

BY ALEXANDRA HARRON
MANAGING EDITOR

U-High students will have a chance to step forward to fill vacant leadership positions this month.

Three student council positions became vacant as a result of the summer resignations of Chris Healy, Student Council secretary; Max Rochester, Cultural Union vice president; Alex Foster, senior Cultural Union representative.

Meanwhile, the freshmen elections will be happening in late September, which is earlier than usual.

Student Council has decided on a process to fill the vacancies.

Nominations, speeches and elections will happen within the next week, according to Dean of Students Ana Campos.



Ana Campos

Over the student council and peer leading retreat in late August, Student Council met to develop a process to elect new people for those positions," Ms. Campos said. "A bulletin announcement is going out to tell students they are welcome to nominate someone, including themselves, as long as that person is willing to take on the responsibilities to run for one of the posi-

"We chose this process because we want to be democratic, but we also want to expedite the process. We're looking for people with an open mind who want to listen to others."

— Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest, Student Council president

tions. The nominees have to agree."

Students can nominate their peers through Student Council's website: sc.ucls.uchicago.edu.

Ms. Campos said that Student Council President Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest would

notify the nominees, who will prepare a 1-2 minute speech to be delivered in front of the current Student Council on Monday. Student Council members will vote to select the new representatives. Only seniors are eligible for the senior class Cultural Union representative position, though any student can run for the other two positions.

"We chose this process because we want to be democratic, but we also want to expedite the process," Fabrice said. "We're looking for people with an open mind who want to listen to others who are ready to come in and most importantly who are ready put work into Student Council."

Elections for all freshman Student Council positions will take place later this month.

Marine biology trip engages, excites students

BY SARAH PAN
NEWS EDITOR

“It surprised me that even after 9 years of studying frogs or 44 years of studying the same salt marsh, the scientists on that project were still so engaged, interested, dedicated and enthusiastic about their work,” sophomore Elizabeth Van Ha said about last summer’s marine biology trip partners. “It was not only their job but it was a passion.”

The week of Aug. 23, 12 Lab students traveled to Woods Hole, Massachusetts to study biology up close for U-High’s first ever Marine Biology Laboratory (MBL) Field Experience.

A grant from the University of Chicago funded the trip, which involved a direct partnership with the lab in Woods Hole.

“It’s not a summer vacation kind of trip,” science teacher, chaperone, and co-organizer Sharon Housinger said, “We wanted students to dive in and learn in-depth about marine biology.”

Interested students applied for one of 12 slots, submitting a resume and two essays by February 27. Selected students attended a



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MAEVE POTTER

MUDDY EXPLORATIONS. Tramping through the mud and jumping over water, junior Nicholas Slimmon and senior Angela White observed the effects of varied nitrogen input on salt marsh plots. Students spotted fiddler crabs, a great blue heron and many sea pickles on this squishy trek.

seminar through spring quarter in preparation for the trip.

“I signed up because I’ve always loved animals and biology in general, and because I’ve spent many

summers by the ocean,” said junior Nicholas Slimmon. “The idea of being able to learn about both in such a cool place sounded really appealing to me.”

Students spent the week doing experiments in a lab on campus and going out to do field work, such as collecting organisms, flying drones, and snorkeling to ob-

serve wildlife.

“It was exciting at MBL, since our dorms were only a block away from an incredibly rich source of life!” said Elizabeth.

Once there, the students worked hard without much pressure.

“We thought it would have been harder to get them into the lab activities,” Ms. Housinger explained. “But we didn’t really have to push them: they were really interested in the activities we chose. We needed to do less work than we expected. We never had to sit down and make them learn it.”

Working alongside scientists was a new experience for most students.

“It definitely opened a lot of curiosity for marine life that I hadn’t really had before,” senior Grace Broderick said. “It gave me a greater appreciation for the sea. Even in the shallowest tides, there is so much life.”

Other participants included Seniors Angela White, Lucy Shen, Maeve Potter, Grace Broderick and Grace Anderson. Juniors Delnaz Patel, Owen Lasko, Nicholas Slimmon, Tobias Ginsburg. Sophomores Whitney Thomas, Hayward Melton.

Exchange trips highlight contrasts in cultures, similarities in daily life

BY CLYDE SCHWAB
FEATURES EDITOR

This summer, French, Spanish and German students across Lab went abroad on immersion trips as part of an ongoing exchange program with partner schools across the globe.

Students went to cities in Europe including Stuttgart in Germany, Gijón in Spain and Beçanson in France, lived with a host family and attended school with their exchange partner.

According to sophomore Teresa Xie, who participated in the French exchange program at Lycée Louis Pasteur, the immersion aspect of the exchange helped improve her language skills.

“The exchange program helped me a lot with the local French dialect spoken in the area I was staying in (Besançon)” Teresa said. “Some phrases spoken that I didn’t know before became super familiar to me by the end of the trip because they were used so often. The exchange program also helped me understand everyday routines in French families. Often meals and cooking would take up a large percentage of the day.”



Teresa Xie

While the program wasn’t free of work, hosts did show U-High students some fun around their cities.

“A memorable experience I remember

“The exchange program also helped me understand everyday routines in French families.”

— Teresa Xie, sophomore

ending at 2 am.”

While living in another country provided valuable exposure to new customs, it also reflected students’ own culture says sophomore Harrison Shapiro, who went to the Instituto de Educación Secundaria El Piles in Spain.

“The Spanish exchange opened my eyes to how assimilated Western cultures have become. Other than the language and culinary differences, I do not think my host family was all that different from the average American upper-middle class family.”

For senior Rachel Housinger, who went on the German exchange program to Stuttgart at the Katarina-Stift Gymnasium, visiting both historic and modern European cities proved exciting.

“It was interesting to see a modern city in Europe,” said Rachel. “On the trip we visited some older cities, including Tübingen, Heidelberg, and Salzburg, but since a large portion of Stuttgart was destroyed during the war and then rebuilt, I was able to see a ‘European equivalent’ of a modern city.”

Though the exchange certainly brought Lab closer to other cultures, according to junior Benji Wittenbrink, it also brought people on the exchange together.

“As a group, we really bonded on the trip because this was a pretty new experience for everybody,” Benjamin said.”



Harrison Shapiro



Rachel Housinger



Benji Wittenbrink

Students gain research experience

BY ELENA MAESTRIERI
MIDWAY REPORTER

Real world experience: one of the many benefits that 19 U-High students reaped this summer when they participated in the Science Summer Link program, organized by biology teacher Sharon Housinger

The program allows students to intern in science research labs at the University of Chicago. The application process began in December. Then Ms. Housinger and three U. of C. scientists placed students in labs matching their interests.

Junior Jonathan Lipman, who worked with Dr. Kyle Chard in the computer science department, said he enjoyed the, what he described as, “laid back academic environment.”

“I had three projects that I worked on during the summer,” Jonathan said. “These involved writing a lot of code for projects that I worked on by myself. I took away a ton from it, both in terms of learning more about computer science and other related fields, but also about collaboration and how the academic community functions. Neither of my parents



PHOTO PROVIDED BY HARRY NI

COATED. Junior Harry Ni ensures nichrome coatings stick to glass sheets, just one aspect of his job in Prof. Henry Frisch’s high-energy physics lab. Harry also worked on a project to develop photodecorators for a dark matter detector.

are academics, so it was a cool and insightful experience”

The program runs seven weeks, but many students work through

Social science interns take on workplace challenges

BY MICAIAH BUCHHEIM-JURISSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This summer, 21 rising U-High sophomores, juniors and seniors participated in Summer Link internships in the social sciences. Chris Janus and Andrea Martonffy organized the program, which sets U-High students up with paid summer internships around the University of Chicago and city.

Internship experiences varied from positions such as serving as a professor’s research assistant at the Booth School of Business or working at the University of Chicago’s Logan Center for the Arts.

Senior Caleb Hill worked at Allston trading, a futures and commodities trading firm in Chicago.

“My first few weeks I worked with our human resources department and helped them catch up on a lot of their projects there,” Caleb said. “I also worked on a lot of the legal aspects of Allston, whether it was background checks, looking at different organizational aspects of fingerprinting, or organizing

documents for legal claims against Allston.”

On some days, Caleb also handled the job of the receptionist, working with the company that delivered breakfast and scheduling meetings with the traders and programmers. Later on, he did research for Allston’s energy futures traders and learned how to trade.

Senior Fikayo Walter-Johnson worked in commercial banking at Hyde Park Bank on 53rd Street.

“When people called the bank, me and Julia, the other intern, would be the first people they’d talk to,” Fikayo said. “When I was working as an operator I quickly learned the best way to keep a customer happy while they waited for assistance. There are times when we were understaffed, so my language with a customer was crucial in making them feel important and not the least bit ignored. I also saw myself working harder to help a customer who was patient and understanding. I think one of the most valuable lessons I learned

the summer like Senior Tiffany Suwathsee, who worked with chemistry professor Dr. Ka Yee Lee.

“I worked mostly with the grad students in the lab,” Tiffany said. “There weren’t any other high school students working with me but I got to see them all during our lunch break. I was given a project to work on where I had to create my own samples of cell membranes, called lipid vesicles. I then used an ICT machine to analyze how the molecules bind together – it was an experience I really liked and it definitely helps you figure out what you want to do.”

Ms. Housinger explained that the Summer Link program is useful to students for starting to think about the future and college.

“The benefits for students include research experience, which they can build on for college and beyond, as well as a feel for what research is like so they can better choose what they want to pursue in college,” she said. “Most students love the experience, but a few find that although the work is interesting, they really aren’t as into it as they thought. This is really helpful when it comes time to choose a major!”

was that how you speak to people can make all the difference.”

Fikayo also took the same courses that a personal banker would.

“There were a number of topics, from loans to human resources. Although they were tedious, some courses taking up to an hour, it allowed me to better grasp the multiple aspects of banking.

On the whole, both Caleb and Fikayo felt that their internships were worthwhile experiences and that they learned a lot.

“Working at Allston was absolutely a good experience,” Caleb said. “We really try to push transparency, so it’s like one big family.”

Fikayo appreciated Hyde Park Bank’s support to the community.

“The course that really sticks out to me is the one focused on the Community Reinvestment Act, which ensures that a community bank in some form or another aids the community it serves,” Fikayo said. “When it comes to serving the community, Hyde Park Bank is as engaged as possible.”

Latin teacher transitions to leadership role

BY ARIEL GANS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

“It is a daunting position but I wouldn’t say that I’m daunted.”

Now the new acting associate principal, U-High Latin teacher of 25 years, Frances Spaltro began her term on July 1.

“There’s very little that has surprised me since getting the position” Ms. Spaltro said. “Perhaps because I’ve been here a long time. The pace is intense, but it’s exactly what I knew it would be.”

Unlike former principal Scott Fech, as acting associate principal Ms. Spaltro works especially closely with vice principal Asra Ahmed and Dean of Students Ana Campos

“We are a team, and we confer on a regular basis,” Ms. Spaltro said. “Ms. Ahmed for instance, her purview is the academic programming and advisory, Ms. Campos is student life and activities with discipline, and my role is a more general oversight of students and faculty. So there are so many points at which we are all part of each other’s conversations. There are certain things that are left to Ms Ahmed to be the official voice on, and Ms. Campos too, and me, but every time I communicate in my official capacity, you can bet that they’ve had input on it.”

One of the long term projects Ms. Spaltro plans to focus on throughout the 2015-16 school

“My agenda is to hear as many voices as I can and guide those voices toward choices and actions that bring us closer to the school we want to be.”

— Frances Spaltro, acting associate principal

year includes creating a new schedule for the high school.

“Right now I’m going to just talk with the faculty that are on the homework committee,” Ms. Spaltro said. “I’ll talk with the faculty, students, and parents that are in the discrete Challenge Success committees and then see where those conversations go and see if I can find a common thread in those conversations to pull together as we think about the new schedule.”

One possibility for the new schedule would be switching to a block, where students would have a day A and a day B, each with different and longer classes—like for instance Northside College Preparatory High School’s schedule.

“If we go to a new schedule that is on the model of the Northside College Prep schedule,” Ms. Spaltro said, “we need to figure out what that means for the amount of homework that teachers are going to assign? Does it mean that we will get more work done in the

classroom? So they will have to rethink how we assign homework, how we think about homework, what’s good homework, and what’s appropriate homework.”

Although Ms. Spaltro has ideas for the new schedule, she wants to hear from other members of the Lab community.

“I am getting familiarized with the work that they’ve been doing over the last couple years, but I’m not there yet so I’m not ready to say that I have a very distinct or clear vision about where this is going to go. I’m in the information gathering stage right now. My agenda is to hear as many voices as I can and guide those voices toward choices and actions that bring us closer to the school we want to be.”

Even though Ms. Spaltro enjoys her interim position, she will still miss teaching.

“I am perfectly fine doing this, and I’m happy doing it,” Ms. Spaltro said. “I am at heart a teacher, and the classroom is where I belong” Ms. Spaltro said. “I am happy to do this for a year but in the end, my happiness is being a teacher. This year you bet I’m going to be standing out in the hallway, and now that I won’t be going home to grade and plan my classes, I’ll be able to go to sporting events more often. I’m really looking forward to that. I love going to student sporting events, I love it. “



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

DAY ONE. Discussing with eighth grader Alia Thomas how Alia had dyed her own hair using Kool-Aid, Acting Associate Principal Frances Spaltro enjoys her first day in her new position. “I am perfectly fine doing this, and I’m happy doing it,” Ms. Spaltro said. “I mean, I have great colleagues, but what I know that I am going to miss this year is being in the classroom every day, with students who keep me young and keep me laughing.”

QUICK Q 8 teachers join Lab staff; excited to begin

COMPILED BY ELIZABETH CHON
OPINION EDITOR

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW TEMPORARY CAFETERIA?

SYRAH RUSSELL, SENIOR: “I don’t think I’m going to eat in there because it seems kind of inconvenient. I’d rather find a spot in the school building.”

AVERIE MILLER, JUNIOR: “It looks a little weird because it’s where the playground used to be. It’s also going to be a pain to have to walk outside during winter to get to the cafeteria.”

SAMY ABDELSALAM, SOPHOMORE: “I think it’s great that the cafeteria is being renovated, and the temporary cafeteria seems like a really good alternative until renovations are complete. Things really shouldn’t be that different than they were last year.”

JOSH ULANE, SOPHOMORE: “While I believe that the old cafeteria was fine, and that this temporary cafeteria has been an inconvenience for some people, I think the improvements they will make will be fantastic and worthwhile in the end.”

NICK TELMAN, JUNIOR: “The outdoor cafeteria is an interesting way to solve the problem of not finishing the new construction. I want the old Café Lab back, but I am looking forward to using the outdoor cafeteria this year.”

Math, world language, science departments welcome new members

BY MAIA BOUSSY
MANAGING EDITOR

This year, U-High welcomes eight new teachers in a variety of departments.

Joining the Math Department, **Erin Duvall** is acting as an interim math teacher for a year, in the absence of Rosa McCullagh, who is on a sabbatical. Ms. Duvall has been teaching in Chicago schools for the past eight years and earned her M.A. from National-Louis University.

“I think my favorite moments,” Ms. Duvall said, “are the unexpected ones that I don’t plan for, but that are great learning moments. I love when students are engaged because it is off script.”

For the 2015-16 academic year, **T. George Hendren** is teaching Latin and an elective on ancient Greece. After earning his Ph.D. from the University of Florida, he taught a variety of levels of Latin and Greek.

“I can’t wait to teach Greek tragedy,” Mr. Hendren said. “It’s been awhile since I’ve taught it, and Greek tragedy is a real joy to teach. Any topic in Greek tragedy will be wonderful.”

After receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry and Certificate for University Teaching from the University of Chicago, **Zachary Hund** will be teaching Chemistry. He also

serves as a teaching consultant at the University of Chicago’s Center for Teaching and Learning.

Having taught in Chicago for the past nine years, **Chaoyi Li** will continue to teach Chinese during Jing Chang’s maternity leave in the Lower, Middle, and High Schools.

“I think the lesson I am most excited to is food,” Ms. Li said, “because Chinese food has eight different cuisines, so there’s a lot to learn for the students, and we could do cooking class for that unit and students could come up with their own recipe.”

Having taught at Barrington High School for three years, **Shelly Lunte** joins the Math Department. She earned a Masters in Education from DePaul University.

“My favorite moments in the classroom are when my students are discussing a math problem or topic without me,” Ms. Lunte said. “I don’t need to be at the front of the room leading a discussion for learning to be happening.”

After teaching in all grade levels in Chicago’s public and charter schools for the past 15 years, **Ian Taylor** is joining the English Department. He earned his M.Ed. in instructional leadership from UIC.

“The lesson that I am most excited to teach is that it’s okay to take risk in your thinking and in your writing,” Mr. Taylor said. “A lot of times kids are afraid to be cre-



ative in their writing about literature and I would like to encourage students to be unafraid to enter into analytical space.”

Joining the Math Department part-time for the 2015-2016 academic year, **John Wallbaum** has an MS in secondary education from Northern Illinois University. He has been teaching for 36 years, 34 of which were in the Naperville Community School District.

“My favorite lessons to teach are the proofs from geometry of the Pythagorean Theorem because there are so many ways to come at it, both algebraically and visually,” Mr. Wallbaum, who teaches pre-calculus, said.

An alumna of the University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program, **Kirstin Williams** joins the English Department. She received a Master of Arts in English and a Post Baccalaureate certificate in teaching writing from Western Illinois University.

“When I’m not teaching,” Ms. Williams said, “I love traveling. So far I’ve visited Montreal, Toronto, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, England, and Brazil in the last two years alone. When I don’t have a lot of time off for traveling, I also love attending concerts. I am also authoring a blog for teens called Kermit Says. There, I write weekly blog posts about issues teens face and answer questions they submit via email.”

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Domination: Fall sports off to a steady start

CROSS COUNTRY BY ELIZABETH MEYER

MIDWAY REPORTER

The cross country team started off its season against St. Ignatius Sept. 5 at Lewis University. They only had four girls and three boys who ran at this meet due to injuries. They did not place as a team because there must be five runners on a team to place, according to senior Paula Herbst.

Today they face their next challenge: the Bremen High School Invite. They also have the Peoria Notre Dame Invite on Saturday, Sept. 19.

The cross country team has lost numerous runners to injury this season, explained captain Charlie Sowerby, junior.

“This cross country season is going to be much harder to perform to the level we achieved in previous years,” Charlie said. “Nearly half of all the runners are unable to compete in races due to injury. Some of us like Elsa Erling and Hannah Herrara will return to race later in the season, but most such as myself, Harrison Shapiro, Genevieve Nemeth, and Lucy Kenig-Ziesler are likely going to be out for the entire season and won’t compete until track season begins.”

SAILING BY ALEX LUND

ARTS CO-EDITOR

Determined to steer away from the wind, sophomore Lillian Nemeth and junior Phoebe Lincoln sail in preparation for their first regatta at the Sheridan Shores Yacht Club in Wilmette on Sept. 12.

Thanks to the determination of Sailing Team co-captains junior Colleen Baumann and senior Phoebe Lincoln, sailing is now recognized as a varsity sport for the first time. Despite only having 10 members, the team is projecting a successful season.

“I’m most looking forward to the first regatta of the year. It’s so fun to race and I’m feeling really confident about the team this year,” Colleen said. “It is free to sail now, and if anyone wants to join they should, even if they don’t have any experience. We will bring them up to speed very quickly.”

GOLF BY NATALIE GLICK

MIDWAY REPORTER

The U-High golf team placed fourth at the ISL tournament at Cog Hill on Aug. 18 after a week of preseason.

At the tournament, the golf team lost to Latin 165-183 on August 21. The team lost to Elgin Academy on August 25 by one point 179-180. The perseverance of the team paid off when they beat Francis W. Parker on Sept. 2 198-190.

“I think that this will be the best year we’ve had since I joined the team,” captain Andrew Chizewer, senior, said. “We have a new influx of golfers with a lot of potential.”



MIDWAY PHOTO BY RACHEL SCHONBAUM

MAKING A BREAK FOR IT. During a practice scrimmage on Jackman Field, junior Benji Wittenbrink sprints forward and looks for someone open to pass the ball to, while senior Avik Herur-Raman, following closely behind, attempts a defensive tackle. Despite an intensive preseason, the varsity team has a 1-4 record.

BOYS SOCCER BY SONNY LEE

ARTS CO-EDITOR

The boys soccer team participated in a tournament Aug. 25 at Reavis High School, where they came away with two losses and a win. On Sept. 1, U-High lost 1-5 against Marist High School. They also lost 0-4 at an away game at North Shore Country Day School.

However, the team is hopeful for the future.

“This year’s team has a great sense of chemistry,” senior Schuler Small said. “Many of the seniors have played together for a long time.”

They have a home game tonight at 4:30 p.m. against Francis W. Parker on Jackman Field.

VOLLEYBALL BY JACKIE WALKER

HEALTH EDITOR

Starting the school year off with a mix of wins and losses, the volleyball team is working with two new coaches.

The team has a new assistant varsity coach, Taylor Magorien, and a new assistant junior varsity coach, Karen Miller. Coach Magorien played four years of high school volleyball and played in adult volleyball league. Coach Miller has been coaching at Lab for 14 years, and this is her eighth year coaching high school volleyball.

These coaches have changed practice.

“We have been doing 30 minutes of jump and agility training each day, but once the school year starts, we won’t have time to do that anymore,” junior Averie Miller, a team captain, said. “We do a lot of drills that work on ball control and conditioning. We need to all come together in the court and play as a team. We have to use the bond we have off the court and play together on court. We have to play for each other.”

The varsity team has won 5 of its 11 games this season.

The junior varsity has won 2 of its 6 games thus far.

The frosh/soph lost their only game this season to Northside Prep on Sept. 2.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

BUMP IT. Lunging forward, junior Alex Du Buclet dives for a volleyball during practice. The varsity volleyball team will travel to compete at Francis W. Parker tonight at 6 p.m.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

SWINGING THROUGH. Warming up before her match against Woodlands Academy on Sept. 1, sophomore Florence Almeda steps in to strike a forehand. Florence and junior Delnaz Patel beat the Woodland’s doubles team they played, helping the girls tennis team defeat Woodlands with an overall team score of 3-2. Their next match is home today at 4:30 p.m. at the U-High courts against Morgan Park Academy, which was rescheduled from Tuesday’s rain-out.

GIRLS TENNIS BY DHEVEN UNI

MIDWAY REPORTER

This year, varsity coach Dawuad Talib is changing things up on U-High’s girls tennis team. He is giving more responsibility to the captains and forming a more cohesive team by combining varsity and junior varsity practices.

“The biggest difference from last year is that practice is led by the captains,” senior Grace Broderick, one of three varsity captains, said. “Captains really want to be there so players can

be open with them.”

The JV players have won all three of their games, soundly defeating Mother McAuley High School 4-0, and beating Woodlands and Sandburg with scores of 3-2 and 4-1, respectively. The varsity team has only lost one of its three games, starting the season with a 5-0 shutout against Elgin and a 3-2 victory against Woodlands before a 1-4 loss to Sandburg. The varsity team also represented U-High at the Jacobs Tournament, where players won four matches and lost two.

Grace attributes much of the team’s success to Coach Talib.

“He’s made the team so much better,” Grace said. “He’s really helped not only the varsity but the younger team as well.”

Senior Monica Lewis and senior Grace Anderson are also captains of the varsity team this year.

“I think one of the biggest changes this year is that we have done a lot of work outside of practice as well,” Grace said. “The captains have been running workout sessions after practice that focus on core and cardio conditioning. I think we are going to be ready for this season because we have been focusing more on technical aspects.”

Permanent diversity coordinator arrives at Lab Schools community

BY MARISSA MARTINEZ

MIDWAY REPORTER

Ken Garcia-Gonzales joins the Office of Education Programs as Lab’s first diversity coordinator. Most recently, he served as Dean of Multicultural Life at the Urban School of San Francisco for eight years. There, Mr. Garcia-Gonzales worked on multicultural programs like a fall festival, a month of understanding that featured workshops and film screenings related to



Ken Garcia-Gonzales

“It’s a balance between being someone who addresses individual issues as well as larger institutional issues. It will be imperative that I work with everyone.”

— Ken Garcia-Gonzales, Office of Education Programs

diversity, and a student-led spoken word affinity show in the spring. He also interacted with student groups and gave professional development talks concerning diversity and equity to teachers.

Mr. Garcia-Gonzales’ first goal is to

understand the landscape of Lab.

“It is a big school with five divisions,” Mr. Garcia-Gonzales said. “I want to identify the areas that need growth within the sections.”

As diversity coordinator, Mr. Garcia-Gonzales plans to advocate for families by listening to students and parents, then communicating their concerns. Mr. Garcia-Gonzales also will figure out the best methods to implement diversity with the Parent’s Association and teachers.

“It’s a balance between being someone who addresses individual issues as well as larger institutional issues,” Mr. Garcia-Gonzales said. “It will be imperative that I work with everyone.”