With health data, administrators will take action

by JACOB POINIER

Drug and alcohol use, stress, anxiety, depression, romantic attraction, friendships. Counselors have always had a sense of student health—mostly anonymously.

With the influx of the health and wellness survey taken by middle and high school students last spring, the administration will be forming a working group, consisting of middle and high school students, parents, and staff to address areas of concern, according to U-High Principal Stephanie Weber.

Ms. Weber said Lab will host open meetings to create the working group and provide information for the community. They will be held Oct. 15, 8:45-9:45 a.m., and Oct. 23, 3-4:30 p.m. in the Gordon Parks Assembly Hall.

The administration planned to share the executive summary of the survey results with the Lab community this week, according to a letter from Laboratory Schools Director Charlie Abellman.

In broad strokes, the executive summary covers each of the survey’s sections — which include physical health, mental health and social relationships — according to Betsy Noel, the health and wellness coordinator. A comprehensive report is planned for later in the school year.

The working group will provide context for the data and thinking of counselors and other Lab staff.

Ms. Noel said, “For example, it’s difficult to know why students are stressed about schoolwork or how stressed out they are — questions the working group can help the school answer.

The working group can also help the administration come up with solutions.

So she asked, “how can we creatively implement that in school?”

Ms. Weber said the health and wellness curriculum, which is offered through FEs classes and supplemented with activities in Advising, is a place to start the discussion.

“I firmly believe that there is a whole lot more that we can do and should do,” she said. “What kind of programming will come as a result of that? I don’t know, but I do think we need more.”

Ms. Noel also stressed the importance of taking action.

“The really important part of this was to bring stuff out of the darkness,” Ms. Noel said. “But when you’re out of the dark, you need to know where to go. That is why we want students to know what support resources are available, for example counselors and the Dean of Students, as well as resources outside of Lab.”

Ms. Noel said one data point that stood out to her was how students reported having at least one symptom of anxiety for 4 days in previous 2 weeks.

Survey results highlight need for change

Mr. Abelmann, and that it will be held every year as a way to better understand students’ experiences and to measure change in physical health, mental health and social relationships.

“Everyone here has always cared about mental health, but we are definitely stepping up how much mental health wellness is integrated into our programs,” Ms. Noel said.

Hot issues ignite class debates

by MIRA COSTELLO

Midway Reporter

First Election Day just weeks away, major powers are in flux, but this year’s national focus has fallen on Australia, with evidence of growing authoritarianism and increasing authoritarianism. Counselors and teachers, Cindy Jurisson looks to the past for answers.

“History does repeat itself. We see similar things happening in early 20th century history,” Dr. Jurisson said, adding that current events enrich history curricula rather than distract from them.

“When we’re approaching current events in class, we’re always trying to connect the past to the present.”

Ms. Noel, a senior in Ms. Jurisson’s at U-High History course, has kept up with Kavanaugh since his appointment in July. Celia said there are class discussions of the Kavanaugh hearing, but hasn’t heard them elsewhere.

“The day of the hearing, everyone came into class, and they were so excited to finally be able to talk about it, since we had not had the opportunity to share opinions,” Celia said about Dr. Jurisson’s class on Sept. 26. “[Dr. Juris- son] said ‘We’re just going to put our curriculum on pause. This is history in the making, and I really appreciated that.’

Celia said she feels that current events enhance the scope of educational history.

“There is a lot of mention of the Constitution in this hearing and how it can be applied, so I think she was really smart to talk about it,” Celia said.

Since today’s news encompasses a broad range of educational topics, Dr. Jurisson often tries to foster outside-of-class discussion.

“People think the worst thing is to have disagreement and contro-
Consultants help shape Lab’s outdoor spaces

**by MAX GARFINKEL**

The operations department is working with landscape architect and students to re-design outdoor spaces on the Lab Schools’s campus. A concept of this is the Old Wood Mall, Jackman Field, the Secret Garden and Blaine Courtyard will be re-configured as outdoor activity areas.

Operations Director Joe Wachowski said that the focus of the redesign is to make the areas more accessible to students and the community, and to improve the existing spaces. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the school year.

**Faculty evaluate replacing quarters with semesters**

**by AMANDA CASSEL**

The curriculum committee’s composition of faculty chairs from each department, is debating the transition to semesters. The committee is mainly directed towards U. of C. departments as well as their emphasis on its importance.

At meetings throughout the winter, the committee members discussed the positives, including more equal grading periods, as well as a decrease in stress for students. However, some members believe that the system currently cannot be effective due to the time schedule. The elective would only last for one semester and could not apply to any department.

**Building Community.** Tightly clumped, U-High students from all grades dance in Kla Noyes Hall at the Homecoming dance Sept. 29. The dance lasted from 7:30-10:30 p.m. “Once people started to show up and we formed a mash pit, people lived on and started jumping and having fun,” sophomore Aiden Grant said. “It was better than last year.”

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**New app to aid safety on U. of C. campus**

Administrators recommend U-High students download UChicago Safe, a campus security app developed by University of Chicago Insurers. The app is available on both iOS and Android devices. With the tap of an icon, students have access to a list of emergency phone numbers, details on what to do if there’s a fire or violent intruder, or if they don’t feel safe around campus.

“This really empowers all of us to take responsibility for our safety, right there in our pockets,” Lab Schools Associate Director Christopher Jones said.

In addition to getting help from the university’s police force, UChi- cago Safe encourages students to look out for one another. One such example is the tread-talk initiative, which allows users to track each other’s locations to make sure they stay safe while walking home. The feature allows users to contact a U. of C. police officer if their friend is in danger.

Although UChicago Safe is an app endorsed by the administration, members of the Class of 2022, Mr. Jones suggests U-High students download the app to stay safe on and off campus and would be similarly affected by any security issues that may arise.

“We have a ton of folks who walk, and when you think about the focus of the fire-period, open-campus policy, there are a lot of reasons for students to U-High to feel the safety and empowerment of what this app can do,” he said.

The app is available to download on the App Store and Google Play.

— AUBREY MATZEK

**Students celebrate homecoming season**

With Spirit Week dress-up days and a lively homecoming game, students celebrated another successful season, culminating in the Homecoming dance with a theme of “Under the Sea” on Sept. 29.

Spirit Week was split up this year due to Sophomore Retreat, which took place Sept. 26. Instead of one consecutive week, it spanned Sept. 20-27.

Sept. 20 was grade color day and Sept. 21 was Hawaiian/shirt/beach day. The next week’s days were Monday, P.D. day; Tuesday, Dress Like a Teacher day; Wednesday, meme day; Thursday, denim day; and Friday, maroon day.

Senior day was this year, and senior Zoe Dervin said she thought meme day was a nice ad.

“Never really liked twin day,” Zoe said. “Meme day was great because it was less stressful, but you had to actually think about it. It had a sense of communality and could connect you with the younger generations.”

The spirit assembly, held in Upkinson Great Hall on Sept. 20, featured a U-High spirit new to senior Giovanna Boffa. Boffa said, “It was a lot of fun to start the week. I think Lab students were really happy because our school’s emphasis on its importance is going to change that.”

Bennett桺adhi said, “I thought it was so much fun to do while running through the banner and then around the gym.”

Students showed spirit at the homecoming soccer game Sept. 28 at the new Jackman Field. Junior Izzy Kellermeier said that the activities before the game such as making signs and decorating cookies helped bring a sense of spirit throughout the students.

— KATERINA LOPEZ

**Policy debate team begins new season**

The U-High debate team won its first trophy of the season Sept. 22 at the Mid-America Cup in Des Moines, Iowa. Sounduja Sha- rod and Jasmine Wang advanced to the octafinals, and Sounduja placed 14th of 116 competitors for best speaker.

“We are hoping to get a few bids so we can qualify for the tournament of champions,” captain Rohod said.

The team competed at Greenwich National Debate tournament in Austin, Texas, on Sept. 15-17. Captains Elena Liao and Rohod tied with a score of 3-3, while Soundja and Jasmine Wang finished with a score of 2-4.

Rohod said, “Greenhill is historically a very hard tournament so it was a very competitive atmosphere.”

— AUBREY MATZEK

**Sri Lankan dancers visit, teach culture**

Raw and emotional, Sri Lankan dancers performed at Gorham Park’s Arts Hall during a dance performance that was held on Sept. 27. The danc- ers are part of the Mandala South group. Arts Hall exchanged an exchange program sponsored by a grant from the MacArthur foundation.

The dancers had two performances in GPAH, both interactive titled “Masked & Myths.” They performed and explained Sri Lankan culture, blending art with educa- tion. Students were invited on stage to learn hand movements.

— RABAIRA GLAEDER-KHAN

**Model UN freshmen show promise**

Lab Model UN students kicked off their year with the sixth annual Lab Model UN Competition Sept. 22. Hosting the event preceded any U-High delegates from plac- ing but new team members still participate in the conferences to gain experience in a real commit- tee.

“We are even more excited about the performance of our freshmen this year in their respective com- mittees,” Jamil Namer, one of the secretaries-general of the U-High Model UN program is available. “Our performance was exceptionally strong, and I’m excited to see how they’ll do for the rest of the year.”

Two of the more competitive teams that typically attend this conference, Lyons Township and Glenbrook South high schools, did not attend the conference. Even without these schools, the event still had the highest number of students in its history with a record breaking 10 schools.

The team will compete next at the Vanderbilt University Model UN conference in Nashville Nov. 2.

— KATERINA LOPEZ

**Asha Bahroos elected to lead Class of 2022**

The students of the Class of 2022 have spoken and elected Asha Bahroos as their Stu- dent Council president.

The class also selected Ben Sachs, vice president; Zachary Gin and Aaron Kim, Cultural Union representatives.

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The class also selected Ben Sachs, vice president; Zachary Gin and Aaron Kim, Cultural Union representatives.

Asha and Ben, who ran together, have a long list of goals to achieve, including the goal to better food system, women’s issues and rights and cultural diversity. Both students seem to have a clear plan to win. “I think we’re all just want to make the fresh- men experience the best it can be,” Asha said.

Asha, last year’s middle school Student Council secretary, got her interest sparked by seeing that she could make a difference in school.

“I enjoyed it so much, especially seeing that I could make a differ- ence in everyone’s smiling and happy faces, that I decided to run again,” Asha said.

— NICKY EDWARDS-LEVIN
Mentor program helps new students adjust

Last year’s new students impart their knowledge

by AUDREY MATZEK ASSISTANT EDITOR

Kenwood Mall. The Caf. GPAH. Most “Lab lifers” take this shared vocabulary of slang for granted. However, for a new-to-Lab ninth grader already finding it difficult to integrate into U-High’s tight-knit friend groups, terms like these can be disorienting.

“Social scene is a common theme,” Sanaa, a mentor, said.

“Terms, such as “the Point”, and “the Midnight” are, at first, similarly confusing.”

When sophomore Sanaa Imami first came to U-High last year, she found the size of her new school disorienting. To add to her confusion, each location seemed to have its own nickname or acronym.

“I didn’t know what GPAH was, I didn’t know what Kenwood Mall was, and I definitely think having a resource to ask questions is really important for incoming freshmen,” Sanaa, a mentor, said.

“Sanaa helped her learn the vocabulary of U-High”, Sanaa said. “Especially since they help you get to know students in other grades.”

“I didn’t know what GPAH was, didn’t know what Kenwood Mall was, and I definitely think having a resource to ask questions is really important for incoming freshmen,” Sanaa Imami, MENTOR

In order to help her mentee make friends, Destiny encouraged him to attend Black Students’ Association, a club she also attended.

“Chubs are really beneficial, especially since they help you get to know students in other grades.” Destiny said.

“Living 30 minutes away from campus, Adrian isn’t always easy to plan after school get-togethers with her new U-High friends, many of whom live in Hyde Park. After getting Sanaa’s contact information, she felt relieved to have another student to talk to.”

“Sanaa,” Destiny said, “It was really nice to know her name and get her Snapchat and Instagram.”

MENTORING NEWBIES. Sophomores Danny Han, Marcus Chang and Adi Badhani speak to a Danny’s mentee about his transition to high school during a lunch in Judd Hall as part of the new mentorship program to help freshmen adjust to life at U-High.

Behavioral focus boosts economics elective enrollment

by SAMIRA GASEER-KHAN MANAGING EDITOR

More students have been signing up for AT Economics in the past two years because they are attracted to the increased emphasis on behavioral economics in the course. The elective has grown from two small sections to three large sections over the past two years.

According to Christopher Janus, who teaches two sections of the class this year, students are drawn to the behavioral economics aspect of the class because it incorporates psychology.

“Students like to learn about the quirks of human beings. It is interesting for them to see how people make decisions, and to understand why they themselves make decisions,” Mr. Janus said. “Previously, the model for economics was that man makes rational choices based on maximizing profits, but it turns out that this is not the case.”

Mr. Janus explained that behavioral economics introduces a completely new way of approaching economics instead of seeing man as a rational machine. Behavioral economics incorporates the complicated emotions that accompany financial decisions.

Senior Alyssa Russell, an economics student, notes that learning about the behavioral side of economics makes the subject feel more relatable.

“I love learning behavioral economics,” Alyssa said. “I didn’t realize how ingrained econ was in our lives until I started taking this course, so I think it’s one that everyone should take at some point in their life.”

She added that students had already learned about how the economics works, including the influences of advertising and the price of non-monetary goods such as time.

“I am already much more conscious of the world around me,” Alyssa said. “I actually initially chose to take the economics elective because she wanted to understand how her father, an economist, makes decisions.

“My dad does econ and stats at both, so growing up I’ve heard briefly about various economical ways of thinking. I’ve come to realize that my dad is the epitome of an economist as he always thinks economically so it’s super interesting to learn how he came to think that way,” she said.

Following an overall trend, Mr. Janus and fellow economics teacher Charles Disantis began incorporating more behavioral economics into the school curriculum after Professor Richard Thaler of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business won the 2017 Nobel Prize for his work on behavioral economics. In the year since Prof. Thaler won the prize, economics textbooks, including the one Mr. Janus and Mr. Disantis use, began placing a greater emphasis on behavioral economics.

Few Quiz Bowl members disband

by MAX GARFINKEL BUSINESS MANAGER

Due to a lack of consistent members the Quiz Bowl team has disbanded. The group will no longer meet, or go to tournaments.

“At the end of the year we had maybe six members, including me,” Quentin De Jong, the former Quiz Bowl leader, said.

The team usually needed only four members to compete, but the group couldn’t get enough members to go to tournaments. Derek said that many were busy or just didn’t want to go.

He added the club could be re-started if there was enough student participation.

Derek said he believed that competition with other U-High academic teams, like math or science teams, contributed to the lack of students participating in Quiz Bowl.

He also said many did not enjoy the club because it requires broad knowledge, not one specific subject.

Adding that this made studying difficult.

Quiz Bowl’s former sponsor, Daniel Jones said Quiz Bowl will not go to tournaments this year due to complications in communication with IHSA.

David Ribbens, who is in charge of Lab’s communication with IHSA said the Quiz Bowl team could go to tournaments again if the club was restated, but did not go in previous years due to conflicts of scheduling.

“Students like to learn about the quirks of human nature,” — CHRISTOPHER JANUS

“Students like to learn about the quirks of human nature.” — CHRISTOPHER JANUS, PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

COMMUNITY BUFFET. Suleyman Ahmed, Jamal Nimer and Quinn Davis gather savory Middle Eastern grilled food at the Eid dinner on Oct. 4. “We had like 25 people show up, which was nice, a bit more than last year,” Jamal MBA co-president said.

EID DINNER

Behavioral focus boosts economics elective enrollment

“Students like to learn about the quirks of human nature. “ — CHRISTOPHER JANUS, PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

“Students like to learn about the quirks of human nature.” — CHRISTOPHER JANUS, PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS
Teaching theatrical techniques

Fall production will stage 8 of David Ives’ one-act comedy plays

by PRIYANKA SHRIJAY
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Whether it's meticulously running lines or screwing bolts into planks of wood to build stages, U-High thespians have been working for an hour and a half each day in addition to their weekend hours to prepare for their fall production, a comedic evening of one-act plays. On Nov. 1, 2 and 3, U-High theater students will celebrate the plays of David Ives with their production, "I've Been Here Before." Theater aficionados will perform eight one-act Ives plays, all comedies. Tickets will be $10.

When choosing the fall production this year, director Liucija Ambrosini combined her excitement about David Ives' stage work with an opportunity to teach her new theater students about acting.

"Last year we had so many people graduate that I wasn't sure how many people would be turning out for theater, but we had a very large tryout and we had a lot of people come, so I thought that this would give everybody more people a chance to be working on some acting stuff," she said.

Mrs. Ambrosini added that she sees the needs of the shows, the eccentric characters and the visual aspects, such as props and furniture, add a layer of specificity and complexity of the shows that has taught the cast and crew the technical aspects of acting and theatre.

Anna Schroth, a senior, has a long list of U-High acting and crew credits to her name, and for this production, she will take on a directing role. Just as Mrs. Ambrosini intended, Anna took the Ives production as a learning opportunity.

"Directing is a process that you need to learn; it's the only way the character will be portrayed with authenticity," Anna elaborated on her directing experience, noting that she has learned to put herself in her actors' character while rehearsing one of David Ives' eight plays that will be performed Nov. 1-3 in Sherry Lansing Theater. Director and adviser Liucija Ambrosini said that the organizational complexity of the shows has taught the cast and crew the technical aspects of acting and theatre.

LEARNING AND REHEARSING.

Dania Basiq, right, demonstrates to Juliet Di Teresa, left, her character's purpose while rehearsing one of David Ives' eight plays that will be performed Nov. 1-3 in Sherry Lansing Theater. Director and adviser Liucija Ambrosini said that the organizational complexity of the shows has taught the cast and crew the technical aspects of acting and theatre.

One of Anna's actors, senior Nicholas Merchant, has been acting since his freshman year and has performed before. "He is a very unique writer because he's able to be funny but in a very unique way," Nicholas said. "It's almost surreal — his writing. It has these very twisted, unique ideas that I don't think you see from other writers."

In this production, Nicholas plays three different characters in three different scenes, each with a case of false identity.

"The first character I play is Edward Degas. The artist. I play a man who thinks he's Degas. And so it's a case of false identity. It's a very fun, outrageous role," he said. "The next role I play is a woman named Klara. She thinks he's Charles Lindbergh's baby, so another case of false identity, and the final role I play is a woman named Edith who thinks he's a French woman dress in a dress."

"In these complex, layered roles, Nicholas identifies who his character is and then adds to his performance who the character thinks they are. " "For a long running series, this prep work is really important, because you have to build the world and discover who the characters are and how they interact," Nicholas said.

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NicholasMerchant, right, center, has been working for an hour and a half each day in addition to their weekend hours to prepare for their fall production, a comedic evening of one-act plays. On Nov. 1, 2 and 3, U-High theater students will celebrate the plays of David Ives with their production, "I've Been Here Before." Theater aficionados will perform eight one-act Ives plays, all comedies. Tickets will be $10.

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Horror & Thrills


Just in time for Halloween, ‘The Nun’ and ‘A Simple Favor’ showcase different styles of suspense.

Horror spin-off delivers classic Halloween scares and frights

by ABGAIL SLIMMON

Senior Editor

“The Nun,” released Sept. 7, is 1 hour and 36 minutes of classic horror movie tricks just in time for Halloween season. The dark setting, creepy music and constant jump-scares work in the beginning, but by the end, the audience has adjusted to the tactics that the film relies on in order to be classified as “horror,” and only the easily-scared are stills most of the way through the film itself.

The instantly unsettling ambiance “The Nun” portrays sends a chill down your spine from the minute the lights dim. The spinoff of “The Conjuring” attempts to heighten the dark glory of its terrifying mother franchise, a series of three main horror movies following the paranormal cases tried to help those who become possessed by demonic spirits.

Anyone who has seen the “The Conjuring” remembers their heart pounding out their chest when Valak, a demonic nun first appears. Their chest when Valak, a demonic nun first appears. In both of these worlds, Starr struggles with distinguishing herself as an individual.

Justice for his murder.

The film starts with a prologue showing two nuns being attacked by a demon disguised as a nun while in a dark tunnel in the abbey. One nun escapes alive, but then she hangs herself above the main steps of the convent. This is a place where nobody would want to spend the night, especially with the shrouds of curtains and fog that never seems to go away. Nevertheless, the vacant halls of the situation and sends Father Burke and Sister Irene to Romania to look into the situation.

At first, the two don’t seem phased by the eeriness of the abbey. Shortly after, they figure out they are facing something that is hard to comprehend, “The Nun.”

Although it’s not nearly the scariest “Conjuring” universe, Halloween season still calls for a few good jump scares — and “The Nun” will do the job.

Chilling thriller elegantly masters suspense, secrets and set design

by SAMIRA GLAESER-KHAN

Managing Editor

“A Simple Favor” is a creepy thriller with an elegant and classic vibe. The French soundtrack and beautiful settings contrasted with the dark twists and turns of the plot make this movie refreshing to watch — it’s not your average thriller. As the story unfolds, you will root for different characters throughout the two-hour run time.

The movie, released on Sept. 14, centers around the friendship between Emily, played by Blake Lively, a high-profile PR executive for a big-name designer, and Stephanie, played by Anna Kendrick, a single mom who runs a lifestyle blog. As Stephanie gets closer to Emily, she starts sharing her long-held, twisted secrets from her past.

She comes emotionally attached to Emily, and even considers Emily her best friend despite only having known her for a few weeks. When Emily goes missing one day, Stephanie does everything in her power to help the investigation and to support Emily’s son and her husband, Sean, played by Henry Golding. In the process, she uncovers chilling secrets from Emily’s past.

What makes the film worthwhile to watch is the development of the relationship between Emily and her husband, Stephanie and Emily, and Sean and Stephanie. In each of these relationships, the characters show redeeming qualities that help the viewer sympathize with their decisions. It is interesting to watch Stephanie’s relationship to Emily deepen and unfold as she learns more about Emily’s past.

Another way in which the film succeeds is in creating suspense. Ms. Lively, Ms. Kendrick and Mr. Golding each give their character sufficient mystery so that you’re never quite sure if a character is being genuine. You’ll be left suspecting each character at some point during the movie.

Lastly, the wardrobe of the characters is a small but important detail that makes the film enjoyable to watch. Throughout the film, fashion plays an important role in character development. Costume designer Renee Ehrlich puts together outfits that perfectly mirror each character in-ternal journey.

Overall, “A Simple Favor” is a chilly thriller without being too-top dark. It’s a perfect non-traditional movie to get into the Halloween spirit.

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YA novel shares message of police brutality, heritage

by ELLA BEISER

Assistant Editor

Favor’ showcase different styles of suspense, secrets and set design.

Witnesses to racial injustice, a young girl writing about her life.

In both of these worlds, Starr struggles with distinguishing herself as an individual. At home, she is known as Big Man’s daughter who works in the store, and at school she hides her true self for fear of being different.

The balance between Starr’s two worlds shatters after the fatal police shooting of her childhood friend Khalil. Khalil’s death makes national headlines as her community seeks justice for his murder.

Now, Starr is forced to choose between maintaining the uneasy balance between her life and school, and speaking out about her police shooting.

This storyline is unsettlingly familiar and echoes the plots of police shootings happening in Chicago all the time. Perhaps this reality makes this story resonate with readers even more.

At school, the issues and topics some students consider important differs from the everyday struggles that Starr and her neighbors face.

By 15 minutes of classic horror movie tricks just in time for Halloween season. The dark setting, creepy music and constant jump-scares work in the beginning, but by the end, the audience has adjusted to the tactics that the film relies on in order to be classified as “horror,” and only the easily-scared are still most of the way through the film itself.

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Favor’ showcase different styles of suspense, secrets and set design.

Witnesses to racial injustice, a young girl writing about her life.

In both of these worlds, Starr struggles with distinguishing herself as an individual. At home, she is known as Big Man’s daughter who works in the store, and at school she hides her true self for fear of being different.

The balance between Starr’s two worlds shatters after the fatal police shooting of her childhood friend Khalil. Khalil’s death makes national headlines as her community seeks justice for his murder.

Now, Starr is forced to choose between maintaining the uneasy balance between her life and school, and speaking out about her police shooting.

This storyline is unsettlingly familiar and echoes the plots of police shootings happening in Chicago all the time. Perhaps this reality makes this story resonate with readers even more.

At school, the issues and topics some students consider important differs from the everyday struggles that Starr and her neighbors face.

Messages in this book, such as how police shootings affect people on a personal level, are thoroughly combed through and Starr’s emotions are conveyed clearly and thoughtfully. It is these crucial details of the book that makes it a must-read for anyone looking to better understand the complication of police brutality
Midterms will shape legislative output, admin

outside of a legislative framework in order to curtail on-
page cuts coming out of the Obama administra-
tion. That will continu-
ue, but that’s a line I’m not
willing to cross.

The new White House is
run out of the East Wing, not
the West Wing. I know that,
but I think it’s going to be a
little bit harder for the polit-
cal appointees to be taken
seriously by the press. They
are going to have a tough
time getting their message
out.

On the other hand, this is
two years after the 2016 elec-
tion, so the media is more
focused on the 2020 election.

The election is going to
shape the political landscape
for the next two years, and
then the focus will shift to
2020. I think the 2020 elec-
tion is going to be even more
important, but particularly in
youth, which affects many
issues.

The media is going to
focus on immigration reform
and resolve the situation of
undocumented immigrants. It
will be very important to
them.

Q: How do you think it’s
likely to be an important
issue?

A: It’s unlikely. That said, this
presidency has lots of vul-
tures. We need to watch the
outcome of the Mueller inves-
tigation and more moderate Repu-
dlicans, and whether they can
break from the party. As long as
they continue to be the same
party, the same rhetoric,
and have to worry about Con-
grress, then it is too likely. My
wife, who’s a part-time pol-
icron, tells me that people are
moderately talking about impedi-
ments after having elected Trump
were really polite. If you
focus on the specific policies
that he’s talking about, the
people who are most likely
to be affected are people of
color, and rich, and well-
educated.

Q: What is your advice for
students who are concerned
and involved but might not be
interested in or able to help
in this election cycle, record
voter numbers for future
voting?

A: It’s very important to vote.

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**Gender dynamics at Lab mirror Kavanaugh case**

By EMMA TRONE

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**

*“If you want to keep your man, don’t stop being a feminist. If you know a lot about a certain topic will ask you to let him do anything to you …”*

As the Midway sees it …

The problems facing our student body cannot be fixed overnight, and we need to be patient with the administration as we figure out how best to help us.

Ensuring a more supportive community is now also in the hands of students. We need to share experiences with the current levels of stress, anxiety, consider...
As political conversations have grown to be increasingly polarized, discussion is often unattainable.

by JACOB POSNER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Professor Anna Mueller collected data at a school with a rigid, widely-known definition of what it meant to be a good kid. She said it made for “a really intense place for kids who deviate from those expectations” because parts of their identities were rejected by a place they couldn’t escape.

It’s a general consensus within the Lab community that this definition involves liberalism. And the polarization of U.S. political ideology has penetrated Lab’s bubble, making it especially difficult to have conversations about political or controversial topics, according to many students. The consequences for saying the wrong thing could be damning, but some club leaders say it’s worth trying to bridge the gap.

Senior Mitch Walker said he finds the environment frustrating. “One of the biggest things for me with discussions at this school is that sometimes I feel as if — and I’ve experienced this [in conversation] with my friends — that they’re afraid to speak up not because they’re afraid to be disagreed with but because they’re afraid that what they’re going to say will be interpreted in an incorrect way, or that people will intercept them before they can finish a thought, and bend their words,” Mitch said.

It’s hard to have ideological debates in the current political climate without the conversations being weighed down with connotations, according to Dr. Mueller a sociologist and professor at the University of Chicago’s department of comparative human behavior.

“Political conversations are so laden. If you were to debate the Supreme Court nomination right now, you would not be debating conservative versus liberal,” Professor Mueller said. “It would be a debate laden with Do you believe that you believe women who have survived a sexual assault, or Do you believe men who may be falsely accused, and that’s an impossible debate.”

These issues are especially difficult to discuss because of the “heightened emotions” around them, Professor Mueller said. “When people are emotional and being hurt by really powerful people, it’s hard to just be completely calm and cool and just listen to the other side.”

During a discussion, Sally Carlstrom, a leader of Feminist Club, said if someone made an offensive comment during a club meeting she hopes he would take the time to have a one-on-one discussion. But that’s hard to do.

“As a leader, I would try really hard to respond calmly. But I know it would be difficult for me not to break out into anger,” she said, “and I feel like anger is a valid emotion.”

Sally said she wants as many people as possible to come to Feminist Club so the community can benefit from discussion of difficult issues. But she doesn’t want to stifle voices as a result.

“For a lot of girls, we are trained from a young age to not use our voices, and take up as little space as possible. I just want to create a space where our voices are valued and heard — and I also want to include other people,” Sally said. “For me, Feminism is about equality throughout the group.”

It’s a balancing act that U-High Conservatives Club member Michelle Tkachenko Weaver said her club also wrestles with.

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PUTTING IN THE WORK

Sana Shahul, a sophomore, works on her math homework in the high school library. Sana is an active member of the U-High community with her commitment to community service and helping others.

She not only has passions in academics to goals.

Sana finds support and encouragement to in her interests from her mother as well as teacher Daniel Wheadon. “He was a thought, and bend their words,” Mitch said.

Sana Shahul looks forward to stifle voices as a result.

“I came back to America, and I wanted to do something. You see kids — 14, like me — and right then, you know they don’t have any as much as the opportunities I have.”

— SANA SHAHUL, SOCIOLIGIST, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Sana Shahul looks forward to stifle voices as a result.

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...
SPIKE IT: Winding up to hit the ball, Zach Leslie plays Spikeball with Gaurav Shekharwal on Kenwood mall during lunch. Spikeball has been described as a cross between four square and volleyball. The boys said they use it as a way to bring friends together and stay active while not playing soccer.

by MIRA COSTELLO
MIDWAY REPORTER

After school, students often clamor to practice for conventional, school-sponsored athletics. Kovler Gym fills with setters, runners and tennis players — but when soccer is not in season, junior Zach Leslie has other plans.

You might catch him playing Spikeball, a game with many familiar rules, but also an interesting twist. It’s been described online as a cross between four square and volleyball.

Also known as Roundnet, Spikeball is played in two teams of four players, with a small ball and a trampoline-like net.

“I saw some highlight videos on the internet of really cool Spikeball plays, which sort of got me interested,” Zach said.

After trying out the game at a friend’s house, he and his brother ordered their own set. A Spikeball kit costs $50.

Though the hobby was conceived in 1989, interest among high school students and adults alike has been on the rise recently. This might be explained by its 2008 rebranding. According to an article by founder Chris Ruder, once Spikeball.com was launched, the company grew exponential by asking customers how they heard about the product.

“I credit that question alone for a majority of our success because it uncovered our three main customer groups: Ultimate Frisbee players, PE teachers, and faith-based youth groups,” Ruder wrote. While this likely contributed to Spikeball’s popularity, Zach emphasized other potential factors.

“It has really simple rules, it’s not very expensive, it’s not heavy — so it’s not difficult to bring places, and it just requires a group of friends who want to play,” he said. “I think its simplicity is what makes it so popular.”

Though Spikeball is simple, its unique style and energy provide a more laidback source of enjoyment for everyone. Those who may not be interested in mainstream sports can use Spikeball as a way to have fun and stay active, but the pastime extends to athletes who want to strengthen their own skill, too.

“It requires a lot of coordination as well as reaction time,” Zach added. He enjoys spending time playing with friends, and says it’s a fun way to socialize and stay active that is “different from a lot of other sports.”

Girls Tennis, JV
Scores not provided by team.

Volleyball, Varsity
Notable: Assistant Coach Harsh Thaker got red carded at the Westminster Invitational game. The team played its Dig Pink match Oct. 11. With three more regular season games, the team is gearing up for playoffs. Their first post-season game, the ISSA Regional Semi-finals, will be at Hillcrest High School, Oct. 23.

Westminster Invit. 10-2, 21-25, 21-22, 21-22
DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 29 2-1
DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 28 1-0
Lake Forest Sept. 22 14-25, 14-25, 13-25
Morgan Park Sept. 22 25-23, 25-18

Volleyball, JV and Freshman/Sophomore
Scores not provided by team.

Girls Swimming and Diving
Notable: The team hosted the fourth annual U-High Chi-Cago Maroons Invitational on Sept. 29, where swimmers raised over $700 for breast cancer research. The team placed first and the Urbana Invitational for the third time this season in a row.

Urbana Invite Oct. 6 1st
Northridge Oct. 6 1st
Northside Oct. 5 3rd
Peoria Notre Dame Sept. 29 2nd
Illini Christian Sept. 28 2nd
FXN Parkers Sept. 25 3rd
Kirklin Sept. 21 2nd
LaSalle Sept. 15 1st
Latin School Sept. 15 1st
North Shore Sept. 11 3rd

Boys Soccer, JV
St Rita Oct. 5 1-0
Latin School Oct. 4 1-0
Northside Oct. 2 1-0
North Shore Sept. 29 2-2
Marian High School Sept. 28 5-1
FXN Parkers Sept. 25 4-1
Morgan Park Sept. 22 1-1
Lake Forest Sept. 22 2-2
Latin School Sept. 15 1-2
Northside Sept. 12 1-0
North Shore Sept. 11 1-0

Girls Golf

Girls 1A IHSA Regionals Oct. 4
Fleet Feet Invitational Sept. 29
Boys placed 5th; girls placed 4th
Peoria Notre Dame Inv Sept. 10
Boys placed 4th; girls placed 42nd

Boys Golf
Notable: The team placed third overall in the ISL Championship. Freshman Aaron Kim placed 1st in the IHSA 1A Golf Regional Championship Oct. 13.

Notable: The boys competed for their boats to qualify, Ava Wilson said.

Boys Soccer, Varsity
The boys soccer team’s regular season has officially ended and playoffs have begun. The team played the Hutson Science Academy at home in the Regional Semi-Finals, Oct. 9. They started

COME SAIL AWAY. During sailing practice, junior Jason Tothy and freshman Julian Jenkins hiked out to the boat dock on Sept. 29, where swim meet raised over $700 for breast cancer research. The team placed first and the Urbana Invitational meet for the fourth time in a row.

With three more regular season games, the team is gearing up for playoffs. Their first post-season game, the ISSA Regional Semi-Finals, will be at Hillcrest High School, Oct. 23.

Westminster Invit. 10-2, 21-25, 21-22, 21-22
DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 29 2-1
DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 28 1-0
Lake Forest Sept. 22 14-25, 14-25, 13-25
Morgan Park Sept. 22 25-23, 25-18

Girls Tennis, Varsity
Notable: The team placed third at the ISL Varsity Championships Oct. 5. Senior Jenny Lewis placed first and the Urbana Invitational for the third time this season in a row.

Urbana Invite Oct. 6 1st
Northside Oct. 6 1st
Marion Invite Sept. 29 1st
Peoria Notre Dame Sept. 29 1st
Brayton-Brockfield Sept. 28 3rd
Lake Forest Sept. 21 2nd
North Side Sept. 15 1st
Northside Sept. 12 1st
North Shore Sept. 11 3rd

Girls Volleyball
Notable: Assistant Coach Harsh Thaker got red carded at the Westminster Invitational game. The team played its Dig Pink match Oct. 11. With three more regular season games, the team is gearing up for playoffs. Their first post-season game, the ISSA Regional Semi-Finals, will be at Hillcrest High School, Oct. 23.

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DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 29 2-1
DeLaSalle Invit. Sept. 28 1-0
Lake Forest Sept. 22 14-25, 14-25, 13-25
Morgan Park Sept. 22 25-23, 25-18

Girls Swimming and Diving
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Notable: The boys competed for their boats to qualify, Ava Wilson said.

Boys Soccer, JV
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Northside Oct. 5 1-0
Latin School Oct. 4 1-0
Northside Oct. 2 1-0
North Shore Sept. 29 2-2
Marian High School Sept. 28 5-1
FXN Parkers Sept. 25 4-1
Morgan Park Sept. 22 1-1
Lake Forest Sept. 22 2-2
Latin School Sept. 15 1-2
Northside Sept. 12 1-0
North Shore Sept. 11 1-0

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North Side Sept. 15 1st
Northside Sept. 12 1st
North Shore Sept. 11 3rd

Girls Tennis, Varsity
Notable: The team placed third at the ISL Varsity Championships Oct. 5. Senior Jenny Lewis placed second in first singles. Sectionals were to begin at noon on U-High’s home courts, Oct. 12.

ISL Varsity Championships Oct. 9
3rd Young Women Oct. 3 2-1
Kirklin Oct. 2 5-2
North Shore Sept. 22 5-2
North Shore Sept. 22 5-2
Woodlands Sept. 27 5-2
North Invitational Sept. 15 2nd
Parkers Sept. 12 2-1

Girls Tennis, JV
Scores not provided by team.

Volleyball, Varsity
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Morgan Park Sept. 22 25-23, 25-18

Volleyball, JV and Freshman/Sophomore
Scores not provided by team.
Running 26.2 miles, 18 times takes dedication, resilience especially on all 7 continents

by ABIGAIL SLIMMON
SPORTS CO. ED.

I n 1996, while sitting in the back of her graduate school class at Har- vard, U-High teacher Shauna An- derson was flipping through a running magazine when she saw an adver- tisement for the 1996th annual Boston Marathon. It was the first year run- ners did not have to qualify and could instead apply through a lottery. She jumped on the opportunity, trained through the freezing Boston winter and ran her first-ever marathon six months later.

Although it went well, this spontaneous decision didn’t make her instantly fall in love with running. It took five years before Ms. Anderson finally decided to give it anoth- er chance. More than two decades later, she has run all over the world. In fact, she’s run a marathon on each of the seven continents. Few people have completed this difficult accomplishment, although for Ms. An- derson, it’s just another way to combine her passions: travel, math and pushing herself beyond her comfort zone.

Her second marathon was in Paris. “I was living in Thailand at the time and I said to myself, ‘What if I signed up for the Paris Marathon in one week. It was very hard, but I did it and now I never have to do that again’,” Ms. Anderson said.

Combining running with travel started to become a trend in her life. She has been to 46 countries. While running a half-marathon in Rio de Janeiro, she met a woman who she quickly befriended. Six months later they ran a mara- thon together in Antarctica.

“After getting through running in Antarctica, that’s when I decided I had to hit every continent,” Ms. Anderson said. “Four days after I ran in Antarctica, I ran another mara- thon in Chile. I got to check off two conti- nents in one week. It was very hard, but I did it and now I have never to do that again.”

It only took four years for her to run one in every continent, and she completed her goal this summer in Kenya. Ms. Anderson will run what she says will be her 20th and last marathon in April on the Midway. Ms. Anderson trained to run her 19th marathon in Chicago on Oct. 7 and has run at least one marathon in all seven continents. She plans on running her last marathon in April 2019 in Boston, where she ran her first marathon in 1996.

On the first day of school, Ms. Anderson shows a video of herself bungee jumping off a rickety bridge in what looks like the middle of nowhere. She said the purpose of this vid- eo is to get students to push their lim- its and go out of their comfort zone — in life as well as in math.

Senior Madison Christmas had Ms. An- derson as her math teacher for two years. “I think that showing us the video definitely captures her spirit as a teacher,” Madison said. “As much as I wanted the job, for me it was really about knowing how to save someone if I ever needed to, and I think that was true for most of the class.”

Lea Rebollo Baun, a sopho- more and varsity swimmer, took CPR and lifeguarding at the end of her freshman year. “As much as I wanted the job, for me it was really about knowing how to save someone if I ever needed to,” Lea said, “and I think that was true for most of the class.”

She and a few friends from the swim team spent the summer life- guarding. She lifeguarded at Sun- ny Pool, where she often practic- es for U-High swimming. She was helping teach campers at Adven- ture Kids learn how to and continu- e swimming.

“When I run, I’m constantly doing calculations in my head. I’m always trying to figure out how far I’ve come and how much I have left. It never stops.”

— SHAUNA ANDERSON
U-HIGH MATH TEACHER

MILES OF MOTIVATION. U-High Teacher Shauna Anderson trains after school on the Midway. Ms. Anderson trained to run her 19th marathon in Chicago on Oct. 7 and has run at least one marathon in all seven continents. She plans on running her last marathon in April 2019 in Boston, where she ran her first marathon in 1996.

“Although I did fulfill my CPR re- quirement and got a summer job out of it,” Lea said, “that’s just an additional perk to knowing how to save a life if I am ever in that sit- uation.”

Seeking improved job chances, students take CPR classes early

by AMANDA CASSEL
ASSISTANT EDITOR

“We want U-High students to have as many opportunities as possible to try new things,” Ms. Or- iloh Ribbens, PE department chair, said, “and the opportunity to learn how to save a life is one of the best.”

Over the last year, there have been an in- creased number of freshmen and sophomores fulfilling their junior year CPR re- quirement by taking CPR and Life- guarding PE electives. The PE department remedied this issue by certifying more teach- ers to teach CPR.

Students who opt to take CPR and Lifeguarding before their ju- nior year sacrifice 12 weeks worth of PE electives beyond their re- quired health class for that year. A CPR certification is a require- ment to be a fully certified, hire- able lifeguard.

Lea Rebollo Baun, a sopho- more and varsity swimmer, took CPR and Lifeguarding at the end of her freshman year.

“As much as I wanted the job, for me it was really about knowing how to save someone if I ever needed to,” Lea said, “and I think that was true for most of the class.”

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“Although I did fulfill my CPR re- quirement and got a summer job out of it,” Lea said, “that’s just an additional perk to knowing how to save a life if I am ever in that sit- uation.”
Saucy Porka fuses Asian, Latin American cuisines

By IVÁN BECK

FEATURES EDITOR

From the crispy crunch, the texture of the fluffy bao comes first, followed by the tangy eruption of flavor of pickled carrots and zesty onions, and capped off with the flavor of seasoned meats. How is such a unique combination of flavors accomplished? Simple: the bao, sauce, and baco.

The bao is the signature dish of Saucy Porka, a restaurant operating out of the South Loop and their new Hyde Park location. The Hyde Park location was added in the beginning of August. Located at 1164 E. 55th St., just west of Woodlawn Avenue, Saucy Porka is a cozy rustic location tucked between a Starbucks and The Nile restaurant. Inside, the restaurant is fairly small. Stylistic decor includes ropes hanging from the ceiling, painted murals and neon lights, all which give the space a rustic feel. Yet every surface is polished to perfection. Natural light floods in through one window, giving a warm feeling to complement the succulents at every table.

Customers have a few options for appetizers or smaller meals, as well as the bao, the main meal. Bao is all very similar, combining several tender vegetables mixed with a meat or tofu base, nestled within a light, airy bao. Ordering and payment take place at the register at the front of the restaurant and food is delivered to the table within minutes.

A single bao range from $2.90 to $3.70. The restaurant also serves banh mi sandwiches, rice bowls, soups, salads, fries, and other side items.

PRODUCT OF CHILDHOOD MEMORIES. The bao, shown above, is a fusion of a bao and a taco, which combines sweet with tangy. The contrasting flavors explode in one’s mouth and excite the senses. A Hyde Park location of Saucy Porka, the restaurant that offers this meal, was added at the beginning of August. 8. It is located in the University of Chicago Campus. Many of the meals were inspired by recipes passed down in the families of the creators.

“I think Hyde Park’s diversity was a good fit. The owner though it would be a nice place for us to call home” — SHAKYRA BARETT, SAUCY PORKA MANAGER

The meat portions are small — a single bao is only slightly larger than the size of a fist — but are surprisingly filling. The bao itself is also filling, giving way easily to the contents of the bao. The bao’s sweet flavor contrasts that of the crispy crunch, the perfectly cooked seasoned onions, which add a spicy zest. The meat or tofu take up most of the substance of the bao, and are dense, satisfying and filling. According to Shakya Barnett, a manager at Saucy Porka, the restaurant has served both the residents of Hyde Park and students of the University of Chicago about an equal amount, especially because University classes started just this week.

The addition of the Hyde Park location transformed Saucy Porka into a restaurant change, and one that serves both downtown and more residential community of Hyde Park.