



U-HIGHERS no longer crowd 57th street on Thursday afternoons now that double lunch has been ended. U-High business overall has been down. Photo by Taylor Crowl.

# 57th Street business surviving double lunch loss

**U-HIGH** **MIDWAY** **Tuesday, November 15, 2011**  
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University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois

## Who's on first? For Presidency, too early to tell

By Akila Raoul  
Editor in Chief

A failing economy and lack of leadership could hurt President Barack Obama's chances of re-election, political pundits and U-Highers agree.

With unemployment rates having risen from 5.8 percent to 9.1 percent since 2008, many feel America has taken a turn for the worse under President Obama. As his first term in office comes to an end with a 43 percent approval rating, the Republican Primary cycle is starting up. A New York Times Magazine cover story November 6 reports one study concluding the President has a 17 percent chance of being re-elected.

**LEADING THE** 16 Republican candidates are former governor of Massachusetts Mitt Romney, leading with 25 percent of the polls; former Godfather's Pizza CEO Herman Cain, with 23 percent; and Texas Governor Rick Perry with 14 percent, according to ABC News and the Washington Post.

While he believes that Mitt Romney will prove the Republican candidate, Sophomore Eliot Levmore does not think he has a chance to win the national election.

"Obama is likely to be reelected," Eliot said. "It is almost certain that Romney will be the Republican candidate. While Romney is good at what he does it's unlikely that he'll win a national election. He's lacking support from the majority of republicans and his Mormonism makes him unattractive to the large base of evangelical republicans."

**"THE ONLY WAY** I could see Obama not winning is if there is a lack of voter turnout. While we aren't doing well under Obama, the rest of the world isn't doing that great either. He has reduced our overseas presence and he's been pretty good at keeping the peace. He's not perfect but he's better than the alternative. There have been better presidents but he is certainly better than Bush or McCain.

"Obama's real challenge is getting enough people to go out to vote for him but I feel like the people who would vote would support Obama over Romney."

Fully backing Mitt Romney because of his apparent ability to fix America's economy, Senior Robert Radway believes Obama's track record of not delivering to the American people will hurt his chances of being reelected.

**"I DO NOT THINK** Obama will be reelected but it really depends on the Democratic turnout," Robert said. "He has not done a good job as president and has not really resolved the problems America is in. He promised a lot of things before he was elected and he has not been living up to those promises."

"There was also the issue with the government funding



Art by Lydia Cochrane

over the summer and how there was almost a government shutdown. I do not think he took a good stance on that and how he was so partisan. Calling names and taking sides is not what a president should do especially not in a split congress. It was not very productive."

Believing many Americans are frightened of the direction America is moving, Senior Victoria Bills thinks the search for an alternative could cause a loss for President Obama.

**"THERE IS A** chance that Obama could be beaten," Victoria said. "In reality a lot of Americans are focusing on the bad aspects of his presidency and are looking for an alternative. Obama has done many good things for the country such as the stimulus, reversing effects on national security, and the attempt to withdraw troops from Iraq. However, many people see these as small minute things and don't see the grand picture. They see that the economy is still in a recession and the high unemployment numbers."

"I think any of the Republican candidates could be a threat for Obama. Obama has been effective in going back and recollecting supporters from before but what he has are short term plans. Getting new people behind him will be difficult and it is hard for him to look good in the spotlight because he is facing a lot of opposition on the front."

While not impressed with many of the Republican candidates except Mitt Romney, History Teacher Chris Janus believes the failing economy and Obama's lack of leadership could harm his chances for a second term.

**"LIKE MANY PEOPLE,** I believe Obama has a real chance of losing for two main reasons," Mr. Janus said. "The economy is not going well and that is a key factor to how well one will do as president. He has also had a failure of leadership by not articulating where the country should be going."

While Mr. Janus believes Herman Cain is running an effective campaign, he sees no way that he could be the Republican nominee.

"Herman Cain is the hot new flavor," Mr. Janus said. "He has a lot of charisma and relates well to people but I don't think the Republican Party is ready for a black candidate."

"Ironically most likely is

(continues on page 8)

## Thursday U-High business drops almost entirely

By Rolland Long  
Associate editor

Restaurants along 57th Street between Kenwood and Kimbark have lost the business U-Highers brought them during Thursday double lunches but that loss has not affected their overall revenue, managers say.

This year's schedule cut out the extended lunch period that many U-Highers relied on to dine off-campus, besides attending club meetings or to work on journalism, theatre or music projects. During Thursday lunch periods, U-Highers no longer pour into Noodles Etc., Medici, Z&H, and Ed-wardo's.

**WHILE NOODLES ETC.** manager Natalie Housh believes the absence of U-Highers on Thursdays has not been financially damaging, she admits missing their sight.

"Last year, I usually used to see 20 students regularly on Thursdays," Mrs. Housh said. "I worked here eight years ago, and I would see students during Thursday lunch, and when I came back last year, I still saw them."

"This summer I was looking forward to seeing them again. When I stopped seeing them, I asked some seniors about what was going on, and they informed me that Thursday double lunches have been removed."

**"EVERY WEEK** we used to receive \$150 a week from them, very small, less than one percent of our weekly income, although it's still revenue that we are missing, and the loss is still residual. When so many students would come in to eat, I would need to schedule an extra counter during Thursday lunches, so the loss of the double lunch affects our hours as well."

Mrs. Kirsten Esterly, 15-year manager of the Medici Bakery and Restaurant, has not noticed any change.

"To be honest, Thursdays are always a busy day," Mrs. Esterly said. "This is the first I've heard of double lunch. I must have enough other folks to fill in the spots, because I had no idea."

**"I WOULD SEE** U-Highers mostly in a half-hour window during all lunch periods, where they would grab a pastry or a milkshake. But it's still hard to notice any difference. It could be that, I can tell the difference between Freshman and Sophomores from adults, but Juniors and Seniors just look too much like college students."

"I think there is just enough people walking over from campus or Ray School to make up for this. There's enough other people in the community. Maybe later when the weather isn't as nice, and it becomes snowier, we'll see a difference. Since people from further away than Lab might not be willing to walk as far to grab lunch."

(continues on page 8)

**U-Highers see any Republican candidate  
as posing a threat for President Obama**



# Fun costumes make colorful Spirit Week



SPIRIT WEEK, October 10-14, got U-Highers in the mood for the Homecoming Dance October 15. Student Council and Cultural Union came up with daily themes.

PAJAMA DAY, Monday (photos from left,) brought out an assortment of nightwear, here Lexlie Barber, left, and Carol Guzman ready for snooze time.

PIRATES VERSUS Ninjas Day Thursday, found Lexie now in ready to kidnap a ship. GRADES DONNED ASSIGNED COLORS on Friday. Jordan Davis is in the red.

Tuesday brought twins day and at least one triplets bunch. Photos by Remy Lewis.

## •At presstime: Principal to leave

Moving to Redmond, Washington on the outskirts of Seattle, Principal Matthew Horvat will take a new position as the head of the Overlake School at the end of June.

Mr. Horvat made the announcement at a brief meeting with faculty members November 8.

At the meeting, Lab Schools Director David Magill reportedly said a committee of faculty members, parents, and administrators would begin their search for a replacement after Thanksgiving.

At Overlake, an independent, college preparatory day school, Mr. Horvat will oversee a school population of 531 students in grades 5-12.

He will succeed Mr. Frank Grijalva, who

has served as head for 17 years.

During his six years as U-High's principal, Mr. Horvat has taken leadership in numerous High School initiatives including implementing a new daily schedule, assessing the A.P. program and pursuing a shift to an Advanced Topics program, and developing a new computer science course for freshmen. He has also served as Chair of the Curriculum Committee chairperson. He also taught an Algebra I class.

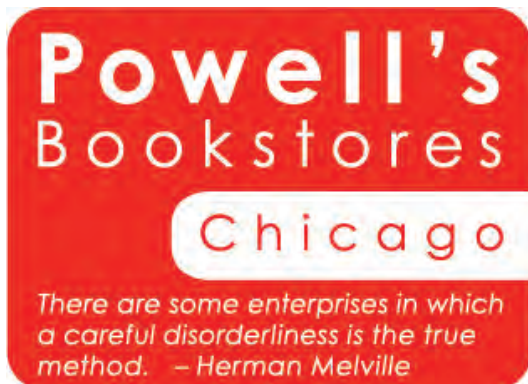
■ SEMIFINALISTS—Seniors Charles Jiang and Robert Radway have been selected at Semifinalists in the 2011 Siemens Foundation Math, Science and Technology competition.

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ENSCONCED IN Powell's comfortable atmosphere, Kyle Chow enjoys this legendary shop's great selection of books. Photo by Nathaniel Green.



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## Assembly unexpectedly travels off the rails

By Sydney Scarlata  
Executive Director of Special Projects

Five minutes can make a difference.

As part of a required assembly October 27 organized by the Invisible Children Club, copresidents Saisha Nanduri and Gaya Coomaraswamy invited members or "Roadies" of the national Invisible Children organization, a group committed to stopping the abduction of children for use as child soldiers, to show a film "Tony," created by group members, explaining the cause.

AS U-HIGHERS filled into the Ida Noyes Theater, the Roadies rushed to begin the film so the entire film could be played. After an emotional story of a Ugandan teenager, Tony, Invisible Children Co Founder Laren Poole ended the film by saying that the best way to support the cause is to purchase merchandise and send in donations.

The film's ending made many question the organization's true intentions, including Student Council President Andrew Palmer.

"I thought the group was overly aggressive," Andrew said. "The film was very powerful until the last five minutes and I really think it inspired people to get involved in the cause."

FOLLOWING THE assembly, Roadies and Dean of Students Larry McFarlane argued over the Roadies selling Invisible Children products in the cafeteria.

"The group was not allowed to sell their merchandise on school property because it is a violation of school policy," Mr. McFarlane said. "Instead, they set up a table of goods in the cafeteria. When the group was asked not to sell their material in school, they referred to a contract they had which called for

a \$600 honorarium if they were not allowed to sell their merchandise. After they turned over the contract, it was unsigned with nothing about an honorarium. Overall, they were obnoxious and claimed the school owed them money.

"My opinion of the organization definitely fell a few notches. I question how much of their money is actually supporting their cause. It is obvious to me that the last five minutes of the movie was the most important part to them.

"THE INTENT of the U-High club is great and I applaud them for all the work that has been done. We're not going to tell Gaya or Saisha that they can't do the club, they should just question the group they are supporting. Now, we will insist on viewing any movies that clubs want to show at assemblies."

Saisha hopes the U-High club's goals weren't lost by the assembly's outcome.

"Our intention was to show the school what we are doing for the cause," Saisha said. "We were hoping to inspire people and we still may use the original documentary without the last part, to spread awareness.

"GAYA AND I had seen the 'Tony' film previously, but without the ending. Before the assembly, the Roadies told me 'We have to get the last five minutes in because it's a follow up to the film.' I just assumed that it was a summary of what the organization is doing now.

"We are genuinely concerned with the conflict in Central Africa. I think Invisible Children, the organization, does a good job of inspiring and explaining the problem. We started out with Invisible Children and they really inspired us so we decided not to give up on them. We looked at their financial records and nothing looked suspicious to us."

## S.C. lines up U. of C. professor talks, plans student-faculty volleyball game

By Spencer Lee  
Editor-in-Chief

A series of University of Chicago professors will give programs in all-school assemblies beginning next month, according to Student Council President Andrew Palmer. But, unlike previous assemblies, students will not be required to attend.

"The whole idea behind this was to use the connection between U-High and the U. of C," Andrew explained. "Since we have such a special relationship with the University, it would make sense to increase accessibility for our students."

Scheduled to talk first is Professor of Economics at the Booth School of Business Austan Goolsbee, former Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers for President Obama.

"We decided to have him talk because he has worked on the Obama Administration, which he will be able to tell us about," Andrew said. "Because of his

knowledge of economics and what he teaches is relevant to many U-Highers, we think we will have a good turnout."

"We are also planning to have an assembly mid December that discusses the issue of recent locker thefts and the subject of stealing."

The Council is also planning to follow-up the student-faculty basketball game with a student-faculty volleyball game. Students won the first encounter, October 6, 42-26.

"The sign-up sheet will be up on the Student Council Board by the staircase going to the cafeteria," Andrew said.

The Council has also been focusing on projects benefitting the quality of student life.

"We are also trying to use the things around us to improve the way things are run," Andrew said.

"We set up the Regenstein Library drop off box in Rowley Library, so students could easily return books borrowed from Regenstein."





**CATCHING HER ELUSIVE** prey off guard (in a re-creation) , Jolisha Johnson ambushes Carly Plys-Garzotto on her way out of a “Romeo and Juliet” rehearsal, as part of the senior class’ much-talked-about Assassination Game. Having proved

a formidable assassin, Jolisha Johnson assassinated six people total. “I asked her to come to the car I was next to so she’d be off school property,” Jolisha said. “She had no idea I was her assassin, so she was shocked.” *Photo by Jeff Li*

# Midway adds reporters’ club after Beginning classes lost

By JR Reed  
Editor-in-Chief

Eight freshmen and a sophomore have joined a new Contributing Reporters’ Club in the Journalism Department started three weeks ago by Midway editors-in-chief.

Because only five students were able to find periods in their weekly schedules to enroll in Beginning Journalism, the editors realized the program could not continue without having more help in writing stories, according to Akila Raoul, editor-in-chief with Spencer Lee, Nicholas Phalen, and JR Reed, all seniors.

FIRST USING the Club Shopping Assembly to attract students and then talking with freshman English and history classes, the editors-in-chief recruited students to join the Journalism program, specifically highlighting skills they have learned during their time in the office.

“We were fortunate to get a lot of students interested in coming into the office once a week to become part of the staff,” Akila said.

“There are two different groups which meet once a week, just based on whether Tuesdays or Fridays work better for them. At the meetings, Mr. Brasler has taught the students basic interviewing and story writing techniques.

“IT’S LIKELY their first stories will appear as a special feature package

the February 21 Midway.”

The newcomers will be getting the same experience as journalism class members do though not experience the journalism study which occurs in the classes.

“All of the contributing reporters will be on the same types of deadlines as everyone else on the staff,” Akila explained. “Each one of them already has their own mailbox, and they will stay here late in the office on deadline nights with the rest of the staff.”

**“I am hoping the experience will introduce me to a variety of new people.”**

—Freshman Christine Obert-Hong

the club to improve her writing skills. “After my experience working on the Middle School newspaper The Jammed Locker here at Lab, I thought it would be a good idea to join the paper in High School,” Christine said.

“When I was a Middle School student, I always loved handing out the paper. I definitely think the experience will help me in my English and history courses, but also when I’m writing just for fun.

“ALSO, FROM WHAT I’ve heard from students who have worked on the Midway staff, I am hoping the experience will help introduce me to a variety of new people as well.”

Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler feels the new club “is an inspirational idea that will help keep the Midway in print this year despite its difficult publishing situation.”

# Few seniors survive ambush as fatal game draws to end

By Spencer Lee  
Editor-in-Chief

Watching your back became a reality for seniors participating in the Assassination Game facilitated by Student Council.

Seniors who wished to join the game were asked to complete a short scavenger hunt via Facebook, asking joiners to click or go to certain pages online and follow the clues. Upon completion, seniors were then invited to a secret event explaining the rules and logistics of the game. Players paired up with their choice of one partner, and are assigned their target. The only weapons allowed during the game are water guns and water balloons. Protective gear, such as ponchos, are allowed in the Game.

THE GAME, planned and initiated September 25 by Senior Class President Ary Hansen and Senior Class Cultural Union Representative Daniel Eimer, involves about 80 seniors, paired to “assassinate” one another through the use of water guns and water balloons.

“I first got the idea from a friend who worked as a Counselor with me at Greenwood Camp for Boys last summer,” Daniel explained. “After I was taught the basics, I realized that this was a great way to bond the senior class together, and talked with Ary to see what we could do.”

Meeting with Dean of Students Larry McFarlane, Daniel and Ary tailored the game to suit the school and its rules.

“AFTER MEETING with Mac, we established that no ‘assassinations’ would be allowed on school grounds,” Daniel said. “That meant that if you were on the black top on Kenwood, that would be okay, but in a classroom or anywhere indoors it would be prohibited.”

Players who have ‘assassinated’ their targets are required to send a photo of their target to either Daniel or Ary to prove that they eliminated them from the game.

“So far, about 30 people are still in the game,” Ary said. “There was a lot of excitement going around when the Game first started. After all, what better way to make friends than to plot murders together, right?”

SENIOR TONY GONZALES, still alive in the game, believes that not trusting anyone is a huge key to success in the Game.

“I think a lot of people are out because they couldn’t keep a low profile,” he said. “My partner and I just kept our mouths shut. I didn’t even use any protection, I just assumed everybody was against us.”

Because the college application process and schoolwork, the Game has lost its momentum, according to Daniel.

“The Game was going extremely well in its first weeks,” Daniel said. “However, when application deadlines started rolling by, and the amount of homework increased, the Game lost energy and now no one is really doing anything to keep playing.”

# Thanksgiving Blooms



**DRAWN TO THE** colorful window decorations, Charlotte Elfenbaum peruses Cornell Florist’s blossoms before going in to make her selection. *Photo by Nathaniel Green.*

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# Students laud vivid acting, staging in Fall Production

By Marissa Page  
Associate editor

Outstanding acting and mood-drenched staging were cited by U-Highers who helped fill Belfield Theatre October 27-29 for the Fall Production of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet.” Many students cited particularly standout performances by freshmen and the effectiveness of a multi-level stage placed between two tiers of audience seating. They also liked the presentation of scenes rather than the entire play while keeping the story coherent and compelling.

THE ACTORS portraying Romeo and Juliet provided their own point of interest.

Freshman Harry Thornton had moved with his family to Chicago from Oregon five weeks before school started and Junior Gloria Zingales was returning to U-High after a year with her family in Italy.

Sophomore Phil Healy, seeing a U-High play the first time, said he was shocked by the level of artistic talent.

“IT WAS was an awesome experience,” Phil said. “I didn’t know what to expect, but I enjoy reading Shakespeare and I thought they represented the text well.”

“The leads, Harry and Gloria, did a phenomenal job, and the supporting actors were good, too. I think they simplified the story somewhat, but kept Shakespeare’s wit and integrity. The mechanical devices they used within the text made it accessible, and the way they condensed it made it engaging and not drawing.

“I also really enjoyed the technical aspects of the performance, specifically the stage. It was tiered and layered and just really complex, and I’m impressed no one tripped.”

A big fan of “Romeo and Juliet,” Junior Stefania Gomez also admired the staging.

“I LOVE ‘ROMEO and Juliet,’ and

although I’ve never seen a theatre interpretation of it, I’ve read the play several times and watched the movies,” Stefania said. “I thought it was interesting how the actors used the stage.”

“I thought they were inventive with the limited space provided, despite the fact that they didn’t have a lot of flexibility to change the setting for each scene didn’t leave them with a lot of options. I thought they successfully worked around their limitations.”

Drama Teachers Liucija Ambrosini, director, and Allen Ambrosini, technical director, won praise for effectively framing the play for a young audience as a emotion-laden tragedy in a taut presentation of three shorter acts than usual.

The student directors were Seniors Giorgi Plys-Garzotto and Jolisha Johnson.



OUTSTANDING ACTING has been cited again and again by U-Highers who saw the Fall Production of “Romeo and Juliet.” In this scene, Harry Thorton as Romeo is restrained by Zoe Briskey, left, as Juliet’s nursemaid and Nell Mit-  
tlestead as Friar Lawrence. Photo by Remy Lewis.

## Romeo, Romeo, where art thou? Not in Oregon any more

By Victoria Aponte-Blizzard  
Associate editor

“Playing Romeo was a challenge, albeit exciting, and something I’ve grown from as an actor.”

With that reflection, Freshman Harry Thornton sums up his experience as a student new to the school, and to Chicago, playing a lead roll in the Fall Production of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet.”



Harry

At 5 feet, 7 inches with angular features and short brown hair, Brooklyn-born Harry came to the Windy City from South Eugene, Oregon and the University of Oregon’s campus, where his father Joe was an associate professor

HIS FATHER Joe was a professor at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the Center for Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the Uni-

of Oregon. The family moved here when his father accepted a position as a visiting professor at the University of Chicago’s Department of Human Genetics, and Ecology and Evolution.

Harry’s mother Margie Kelly directs her own communications program.

With his parents and sister Grace, 11, Harry moved to Hyde Park five weeks before the school year began.

Chicago has proven a big change from Eugene, Harry said.

“Back in Eugene, I felt alienated,” he said. “Everyone coasted through life without really stopping to enjoy it or learn. I love Chicago’s urban setting. This city feels alive, it’s always moving and there are always things happening. It’s really invigorating.”

Harry became interested in the performing arts because of his father’s experiences as a rock bassist. Harry plays the cello with a string quartet at the Music Institute of Chicago in Winnetka.

“I started playing the cello when I was 5 through a music program at the University of Oregon,” Harry said. “Music is a pure way to express yourself. I find it a great outlet.”

AS FOR DRAMA, he explained, “The summer of 4th grade I took a youth theatre enrichment program at the University of Oregon, and the instructor recommended I try out for local performances. One of my most memorable moments on stage was at the Oregon Bach Festival in my role as young David in Arthur Honegger’s ‘King David.’ I got to defeat the giant Goliath.”

Although he did not audition particularly for the role of Romeo in the Fall Production, Harry said he was happy to land it.

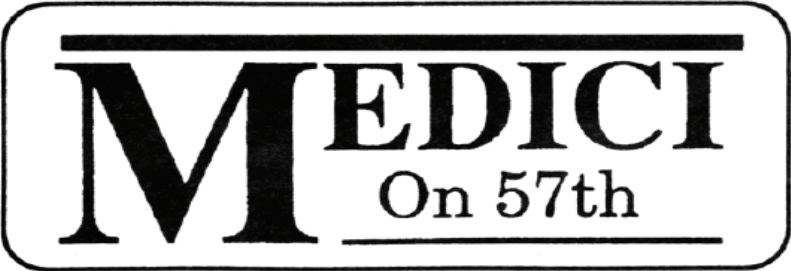
“I’m a freshman and just moved here, so I wasn’t expecting to get the leading role at all,” he said. “I tried out just hoping to be a part of the production.”

“When I found out I was Romeo, I was really excited. He’s a complicated guy, and it’s hard to do justice to such a great script. Here was an opportunity to see what I could do.”

# FOOD FOR EVERY MOOD



BROWSING THROUGH The Medici on 57th extensive and unique menu, with literally something for everyone, Andrew Palmer and Adam Gray consider just going for their favorite, two personal deep dish pizzas. Photo by Leslie Kamel.



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# Thanksgivings bring travel, tofu turkey

By Marissa Page  
Associate editor

Mexico-bound for Thanksgiving vacation with her family, Sophomore Lindsey Aronson is one of several U-Highers traveling for Turkey Day.

"Usually, I stay in the Midwest for Thanksgiving because a lot of my family lives here," Lindsey said. "But this year, my parents wanted to change it up and get out of the cold, so we've decided to go to our timeshare in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico."

"The place we stay is usually so clean and open, plus it has great views of the ocean. We'll be there for five days, relaxing, eating tacos, going to the beach, reading and possibly scuba diving. While we're there I'm hoping to finally obtain my scuba license."

**ALSO TRAVELING** for Thanksgiving, though just a 20-minute flight away, Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler is headed for Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

"My Thanksgiving is very interesting," Mr. Brasler said. "Every year I fly to Milwaukee with two pilot friends and we have dinner with two nuns who I've known for 40 years now. One of the nuns is a sister of my late best friend. It's a very nice tradition, and the dinner is always quite festive."

Junior John Lin also is headed nearby, to Dowagiac, Michigan.

"**EACH THANKSGIVING**, my mom, dad, friend Josh and I go to Michigan and stay at our house on Little Crooked Lake," John said. "On Wednesday, it's tradition for Josh and I to drive up to Benton Harbor, shop at an outlet mall there and then see a movie together."

"Thanksgiving morning, I wake up really early and make omelets for everybody. Then Josh and I watch a ton of horror movies, eat boxes of Oreos and go swimming in the lake, despite the fact that the water's usually freezing. If the weather is way too cold for swimming, we bundle up and go for a walk in the forest. After, we help my parents get dinner ready. Our Thanksgiving meal consists of a mix of

Chinese and traditional Thanksgiving foods. We have duck, turkey, rice and mashed potatoes."

Traditional Thanksgiving foods won't be part of dinner for Freshman Charlotte Elfenbaum.

"My mother, sister and I are vegetarians, so my whole family eats Tofurkey for Thanksgiving dinner," Charlotte said. "We also make vegetarian stuffing. It usually tastes really bad, so I cover my piece in ketchup and try to force it down. The family rule is everyone has to have at least one bite, and if it's really, really horrible then we can order pizza."

By comparison, Computer Science Teacher Baker Franke remembers a particularly full Thanksgiving.

"One year, my birthday, November 21, fell the day before Thanksgiving," Mr. Franke said. "We had two gorge-fests in a row. I really like barbeque ribs, so on Wednesday we had a huge rib fest, and then on Thursday we ate the traditional Thanksgiving fare. My family almost died from being so bloated."

# Lorem Ipsum.....by Gene Cochrane



## CHARACTER SKETCH BY HEBAH MASOOD

### Two cultures, two sports captivate industrious senior

EVERY FRIDAY DURING lunch in the cafeteria Senior Brenda Benitez can be found wearing a short-sleeved t-shirt and American Eagle Outfitters skinny jeans selling one-dollar churros to fundraise house building in Guatemala.

Latinos Unidos vice president with Senior Christian Castaneda, Brenda has sold churros since her freshman year. Though born in Chicago, Brenda is still influenced by her Mexican parents' heritage.

**BRENDA ISN'T A LIFER** at the Lab Schools, coming to U-High from Lenart Gifted Regional School, in the Chatham neighborhood.

Her first day at U-High she was introduced to Lincoln Park Juniors by Senior Gaya Coomaraswamy, a rowing team outside of U-High, and then joined varsity basketball two years later.

Her parents having been born in Mexico, Brenda's life has been richly influenced by her cultural heritage.

"**BEING MEXICAN-AMERICAN** has sort of forced me to better myself not only for my benefit but also for the community's," Brenda said. "I've always tried to fight the stereotypes. I think Latino culture is one of the cultures underrepresented at Lab."

Searching for job opportunities, Brenda's parents moved from Mexico to Chicago 20 years ago because a family member lived here.

For many years, Brenda visited her grandparents in Amatepec, a small town in Mexico State every other year until security issues arose.

"**MY GRANDPARENTS LIVE** in a really remote part of Southern Mexico," Brenda said. "We used to visit almost every summer but we haven't gone back in three years. The area has become really dangerous because of kidnapping and drug trafficking."

"There's been kidnappings all over but Amatepec was really hard hit, although it's been a lot safer lately according to my grandparents. The area is really different though and it's always hard to get used to when we first get there."

"Most houses in the area don't have running water or phones. My grandparent's house is one of the few with both."

"**YOU SEE** so much poverty and lack of education in Amatepec but also a huge difference in how much technology they have."

"There's no internet access either which is a big deal because they don't have access to news and what's going on in the world."

Brenda also attends rowing practice

for two-and-a-half hours six days a week for the Lincoln Park Juniors.

**SHE FOUND OUT** about rowing at the beginning of her freshman year when she asked Gaya, now one of her best friends, why her hands were roughened up.

"At Freshman Orientation I saw Gaya's hand and I freaked out because she had all these blisters," Brenda said.

"She explained that she rowed, and it sounded so interesting I started rowing, and I've stuck with it since."

**LAST MAY BRENDA'S** boat qualified for Nationals after her team of eight rowers won the Midwest Junior Rowing Championships in Ohio.

"Rowing really pushes you and makes you mentally stronger," Brenda

said. "It's also a huge team sport and it takes a big commitment because you need eight people to move the boat and if someone doesn't show up for practice you can't go anywhere."

Developing a passion for sports in general, Brenda says joining varsity basketball her junior year was one of the best decisions she ever made.

"**MY OLD SCHOOL** didn't have any girls' sports teams because there was a large problem with funding," Brenda said.

"I've always wanted to play basketball and my friend and I even tried out for the boys' team at Lenart even though the coaches basically said upfront we couldn't join the team."



Art by Gene Cochrane

BRENDA BENITAS

## Great Styles, Great Savings!



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FLAUNTING HER new hairstyle, Ginny Differding completes her fresh fall look.  
Photo by Nathaniel Green.

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## AS THE MIDWAY SEES IT

# Occupy protests offer U-Highers opportunity to judge for themselves

At U-High, it seems, four years of near political silence may have been broken last month.

The Occupy Chicago protests, part of the international Occupy Wall Street movement, have been drawing thousands to LaSalle and Jackson Streets downtown to protest income inequality and corporate influence. Among them have consistently been several U-Highers.

Occupy Wall Street, beginning last month in New York City, quickly gained national recognition. Though protesters drew media criticism for their unclear goals, more than 15,000 people took to the streets in New York City, and about 3,000 people have participated in the Occupy Chicago spinoff.

For the U-Highers who have joined in, this represents a type of political action practically unheard of since Barack Obama's 2008 campaign.

Four years ago, U-High Students for Barack Obama was one of the largest high school campaign organizations in the state.

Older U-Highers can doubtless still remember the feeling of action. Some made weekly trips to Indiana to canvass voters, others called supporters or simply talked to adults they knew about voting.

Since then, ambivalence has proved the norm. Neither the 2010 midterm elections nor the last year's mayoral contest inspired many U-Highers to campaign.

Perhaps Occupy Chicago could become U-Highers' new cause.

Many students argue that the protesters are too vague or uninformed about the issues they are so passionate about. Others say that corporate influence is too irrelevant from their everyday lives to be a call to action.

It seems, however, that corporations



Art by Gene Cochrane

taking advantage of consumers and buying elections should matter to all Americans, especially those who cannot yet cast their own votes.

The truth is that the protesters at La-

Salle and Jackson definitely know as much about economic reform as 14-year-old U-Highers knew about Barack Obama's campaign four years ago.

## For old dance problems, new solutions welcome

"Where were the mothers when these girls were getting dressed?"

So asked many chaperons after last month's Homecoming Dance which once again showcased plenty of sexually suggestive dancing and often tight, barely there fashions.

Yet while many chaperons and parents at the dance complained that the provocative dancing proved inappropriate for a high school dance, students would argue that the dancing is

just teenagers being teenagers and reflecting the culture of the 21st century.

As much as the pounding hip-hop and catchy pop tunes remain a part of our generation, so does the fast paced dancing known colloquially as juking.

Adults argue this form of dancing could very well lead way to further actions. But, for many students, it is simply a way to relieve stress and express feelings otherwise suppressed by the pressures of school. With no danger of

pregnancy and no sharing of germs, juking is, in essence, completely harmless.

However, after concerns with the fashions modeled by the girls at the dance arose, a meeting of administrators, faculty and Student Government representatives will discuss the clothes issue.

Perhaps they will discuss the unofficial senior themes which in recent years have included some form of the word "whore," only encouraging provocative dressing, this year being "Apache Bros

and Navahoës."

This term which would be offensive to most girls any other time, is suddenly all right for Homecoming themes and one can only expect risqué fashions when they are attempting to emulate "hoës."

Yes, while the mothers of many dancegoers might appear to be absent, the efforts of the school to prevent future mishaps at the dances are commendable.

## SAYWHAT?

Compiled by Spencer Lee

If you could stuff a Thanksgiving turkey with anything, what would it be?



Kavia

**KAVIA KHOSLA, senior:** I would stuff the turkey full of Nutella because it's the best invention since sliced bread, and we need to be thankful for such a thing.



Gloria

**GLORIA ZINGALES, junior:** I would fill it with my gratitude and walnuts. Walnuts are always good.



Sam

**SAM LEITER, sophomore:** I would stuff it with fetuses for the stem cells and for the superpowers.



Sameer

**SAMEER SAWAQED, freshman:** I would stuff the turkey with a car, because then I would be rollin' with a turkey car.

## U-HIGH MIDWAY

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## OPINION DUNCAN WEINSTEIN

### Following in the manly footsteps of Abe Lincoln and Santa Claus

"THAT BEARD isn't going to shave itself."

So said an anti-beard, but obviously jealous, freshman recently. He, and many other U-Highers, are practically begging me to shave.

SINCE MY BEARD emerged into the world this summer, humanity has seemingly divided into four camps: Beard haters, beard lovers, undecideds, and believers in my individual choice.

Beard haters have been by far the most passionate. A 2010 U-High graduate staged an intervention on Facebook.

A freshman offered to buy me a razor. My best friend mocks me, talking to my beard as a separate person. Instead of "hi," many U-Highers greet me with "shave!"

BUT OTHER, FRIENDLIER U-Highers have become my compatriots in beard solidarity. Joking aside, I have solidified friendships through admiration of my beard.

And they're right to support me. A beard comes with many advantages.

For example, a beard compensates for my face not changing since 8th grade. Bearded, people often confuse me for college student. It's better to resemble a

college student than a middle schooler.

That, and the ability to make a grown man envious brings with it some satisfaction.

ALSO, MY HALLOWEEN costume possibilities were nearly endless. Abraham Lincoln, Wolverine, Paul Bunyan, etc. Too bad 16 year olds are too old to go Trick-or-Treating.

Plus, I can stroke my beard and feel wise.

As winter sets in, I grew my own scarf.

HAVING addressed the advantages, some beard myths require debunking.

Having a beard doesn't save time shaving. Having a beard requires more careful shaving, plus trimming time. Food does not get stuck in my beard, nor does my beard itch.

The main, and only, disadvantage of beardedness remains the little problem of people hating it. But what can I do, haters gonna hate.

While beards don't suit everyone, I like mine, and so the beard stays, at least until Spring.



Duncan

## Write us!

Providing what we call a "marketplace of opinion" is important to the Midway staff. We welcome your ideas in print for everyone to see. Letting us know what you think is as simple as putting a letter in Mr. Brasler's mailbox in the High School Office. We'll take it from there! The only requirement is that you sign your letter. So write!



Money talks, but time speaks louder when every second counts

GIANT, ARTSY skyscrapers tower over clean roads filled with convertibles and surrounded by cafes full of people eating caviar off silver spoons. Abandoned, crumbling projects containing cracked roads and seedy bar’s neon signs illuminating expired people on the streets. Welcome to New Greenwich and Dayton, two vastly different time zones. Director-Writer Andrew Niccol’s sci-fy “In Time,” from studios Strike Entertainment and Regency Enterprises, stars Justin Timberlake and Amanda Seyfried as opposites; one poor, one rich, and predictably coming together to save the day.

**TIME ZONES**, basically big cities differentiated by the wealth contained, purposefully protect the rich from the poor. Poor people live hour-to-hour while rich bankers decide when to raise prices unexpectedly, thinning populations to keep their sick economy balanced. The actual world looks like a single continent similar to Africa.

With the aging gene turned off, no one ages past 25, making thinning necessary to keep the rich happy and uncrowded. Timekeepers, basically the police, kill or incarcerate anyone gaining time quickly or suspiciously.

Every piece of dialogue contains some pun on time, making many viewers want to strangle the people. Dayton’s people wear frumpy knock-offs while New Greenwich residents adorn stylish black dresses and suits at all times. Main character Will Salas (Justin Timberlake) life in Dayton changes drastically after saving Henry Hamilton (Matt Bomer) from minutemen, sleazy stereotypical gangsters dressed in crisp suits who steal time and kill people. Henry, sick of society, gives Will a century that he uses to move to New Greenwich, and wastes time while timekeepers hunt him down for murder. Disgusted by the wasteful New Greenwich, Will slips into depression.

**GAMBLING HIS LIFE** away at a casino, Will meets Phillippe Weis (Vincent Kartheiser), an incredibly rich banker responsible for millions



of deaths worldwide. Phillippe loses a gamble to Will, and, impressed by Will’s guts, invites him to his house party later that night.

At the party, he meets Weis’s daughter, Sylvia (Amanda Seyfried), the typical rich girl down to her high strappy heels, her racy dresses and perfect red bob. After some flirting and talking, timekeepers, adorned in ridiculous black leather outfits and gelled hair, interrupt the party and try to arrest Will. Desperate, he kidnaps Sylvia and escapes with her in a boxy black muscle-car. Realizing the corrupt system her dad helps, Sylvia predictably teams up with Will, and they start a relationship.

Brilliant scenes shot in daylight with vivid color as they rob Weis banks and gold washed chase scenes during the night make the otherwise alright film worth seeing. “In Time” is rated PG-13 and runs 109 minutes.

**BREAKING INTO her father’s vault to steal time with an armored van, Will Salas (Justin Timberlake) and Sylvia Weis (Amanda Seyfried) move quickly on their first heist to help the poor.** Photo from [intimemovie.com](http://intimemovie.com)



Moira

COOKING WITH ANEESH KANAKAMEDALA

An Indian twist to a traditional bird keeps it hot

Definitely not the bird Pilgrims and Indians once shared on Thanksgiving, Tandoori turkey, with its South Asian Indian spice, will fire up your holiday.

Americans eat over 45 million turkeys during Thanksgiving, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, leaving a lot of room for turkey experimentation. Making Tandoori Turkey instead of the traditional baked bird is more ethnic, flavorful and showcases your culinary skills.

A vertical oven used in South Asian countries, a “tandoor” gives a charred flavor to meats. You won’t need one for this recipe, but the ingredients remain “tandoori”, namely yogurt, garam masala, and chili powder. This 20-pound bird requires a marinade, entailing two days of work, one for prep and one for baking; but once you pull the fiery, spicy bird out of the oven, you and 19 other relatives will never go back to the original.

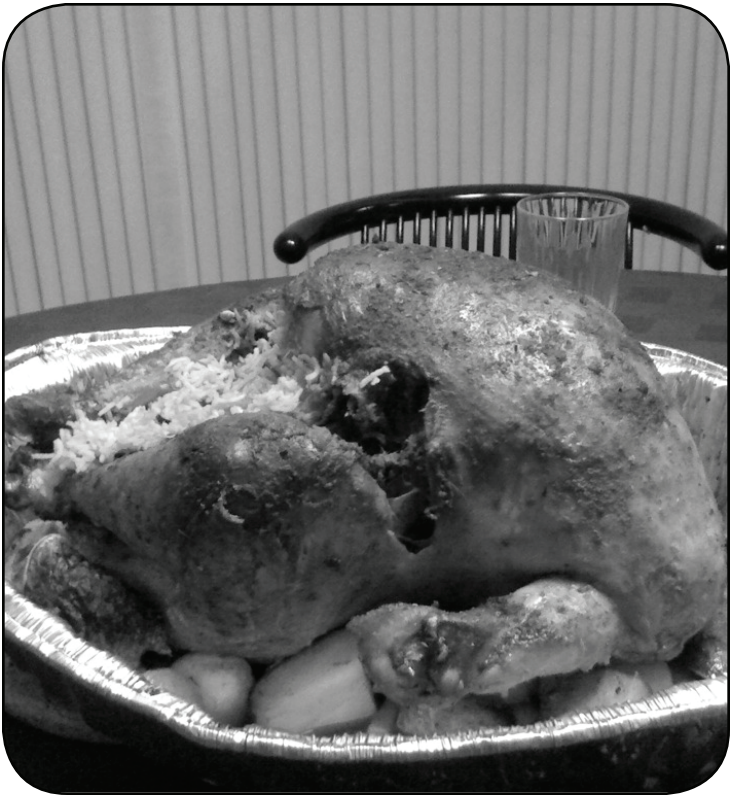
If you can’t handle the heat, use less chili powder and jalapenos. You might also want to try baking this before Thanksgiving to test it out. Serve this main dish you’re favorite sides.

You will need:

- 2 head of garlic
- 10 pieces of ginger 1-inch long, peeled
- 3 jalapenos sliced into 1/2-inch rounds
- 3 bunches of thyme, finely chopped
- 3 bunches of rosemary, finely chopped
- 1 Turkey 20 pounds
- ¼ cup chili powder
- 1 cup whole yogurt
- ½ cup garam masala\*
- 1 sticks butter, sliced into ¼ inch slivers
- Optional vegetables of your choice to cover pan

Note: You can buy garam masala from an Indian supermarket or make your own. Just blend green cardamom pods, black peppercorns, cloves, Malabar leaves, cumin, coriander seeds, and star anise in according to your taste preference. After blending, store in an airtight container.

**MARINADE:** Remove cloves from one head of garlic and put in a blender along with five pieces of ginger. Blend until it forms a wet paste. In a bucket, put in



**BASTING THE TURKEY every 30 minutes in the oven will give the bird its red, charred look while also reapplying flavor that may burn off.** Photo courtesy of Aneesh.

the turkey and fill with water until it covers the bird. Add the jalapeno slices, herbs, ginger-garlic paste and enough ice to keep the turkey cool overnight. The turkey should be fully marinated by the next day.

**TURKEY:** Preheat your oven to 375 degrees with rack at lowest position. Remove turkey from marinade and place in a roasting pan. You may choose to first cover roasting pan bottom with sliced vegetables of your choice. Blend cloves from garlic and ginger pieces together to make more ginger-garlic paste. Combine the chili powder, yogurt, garam masala, and ginger-garlic paste together and rub on and inside the turkey, making sure to get all sides.

Carefully cut 1/2-inch slits, as few as possible, in the turkey skin and push butter slivers in between the meat and the skin making sure to cover all areas. Tuck wings under the bird and tie legs together with kitchen twine.

Bake the prepared turkey, basting turkey with its juices every half hour and rotating pan after two hours until a thermometer stuck into the thickest part of the thigh reads 165 degrees, about two and a half to three hours. Remove turkey from oven and let rest for 30 minutes until carving, letting the juices redistribute. Cutting prematurely will cause the juice to leak from the meat, leaving your turkey dry and tasteless.

MUSIC MARISSA PAGE

Echoes of ‘Metals’ ring loud and clear

IF FEIST’S fifth album, “Metals,” were a metal, it would be aluminum foil—light, shimmery and sometimes quite sharp.

Debuting in 1999 with the album “Monarch (Lay Your Jewelled Head Down),” Canadian art-pop singer-songwriter Leslie Feist, known professionally as Feist, was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia. Although her first album was an underground success, Feist gained no commercial recognition until she released her two subsequent albums, 2004’s “Let It Die” and “The Reminder” in 2007. The latter included her hit single “1234,” which reached number 8 on the U.S. Charts after being featured in an iPod Nano commercial. “The Reminder” also received four nominations for the 2008 Grammy Awards and five wins at the Juno Awards.

**WITH A SERENE**, almost balletic tone, Feist’s voice flits and floats through her romantic, whimsical songs with a soft ease.

Stylistically, “Metals” is haunting, simple and ethereal. Feist makes great use of booming gospel choruses, sudden crescendos and the technique “variation,” or taking a basic melody and altering it repeatedly. The sound quality of each song is slightly underdeveloped, giving the album a hipster-y vibe.

Darker tracks like “Graveyard,” “A Commotion” and “Get it Wrong Get it Right” include nods to musicians like space-rock group Broken Bells, eccentric vocalist Lykke Li, and indie-folk singer Bon Iver, respectively. Some songs, particularly “The Bad in Each Other” and “The Circle Married the Line,” demonstrate Feist’s incredible vocal range and capacity for high notes.

Apart from that, “Metals” under-works the songstress’ feathery vocals, which, combined with her generally uncomplicated lyrics, become cloyingly sweet and syrupy.

NEARLY UBIQUITOUS,

vaguely militaristic percussion and bursts of spirited choral accompaniment offset Feist’s soft voice; the contrast of these elements adds depth and pizzazz to what would otherwise be a collection of thin, gauzy lullabies.



Marissa





# Lunch business

(continued from front page)

For Z&H, the one-year-old restaurant on 57th street, the change caused Z&H staff to scrap a small food stand marketed toward U-Highers behind the restaurant, although whether the change is good or bad financially remains to be seen.

“The thing is, there is a trade off losing the large amount of customers that used to come all at once,” Z&H manager Tizziana Baldenebro said. “When too many students came on Thursdays, other people might not have wanted to eat here because it just looked like it’s too crowded.”

“**ONE OF OUR IDEAS** was to create a small store, called a ‘Meat Shed.’ We thought of it because on Thursday we saw so many kids. We were planning to use the garage to sell hot dogs and other things to U-Highers and college students.

“We haven’t seen a big difference in our income, although we’ll probably be more sure later on.”

According to Edwardo’s Manager Reynaldo Servano, business is slow because of the economy, not because U-Highers aren’t eating there.

“**BEFORE I GOT A JOB** here eight months ago, business was already slow,” Mr. Servano said. “When I came here for a job interview, the General Manager told me I might not get many hours, and this was when I came in as a server. I’m a Manager now, and you can say that that’s because we’re so understaffed.”

“We’ve been seeing more business in the end of the summer, but we’re not doing as well as we should. Since I started working here I would say I see mostly college students and maybe high schoolers every so often. Maybe the lack of business might be a little affected by this new schedule change in U-High, but I would say it’s mostly be-



## Happy Halloween

**AN EGYPTIAN-THEMED Halloween enlivened Upper Sunny Gym for the annual Bizzarnival October 29. Many U-Highers, including from left Shrija Hale, Anna Rosic and Emma Polson helped provide youngsters with a safe celebration. Photo by Lili Steffen.**

cause of the economy.”

“What can you do though? We tried doing little specials like hot wings, but business is still so slow. I think we can recover, but we just need to find a way to advertise better. I mean, if I were a teenager, I’d eat here.”

“**WE STILL NEED** all the customers we can get. We just need people in general. If five lab schoolers came by, it’ll still make a difference.”

U-Highers say they miss the opportunity to dine off campus.

A frequent off-campus diner, Senior Jessica Blocker can rarely eat at nearby restaurants with her friends at all, let alone during lunch.

“Usually I would go out to eat with my friends, the University Market when it still existed, Noodles Etc., or the Medici,” Jessica said. “It was nice to have two periods where everyone was free.”

“**WITHOUT DOUBLE LUNCH**, during the school year I rarely go to Noodles anymore, although I occasionally still go to the Medici in the mornings to get coffee with friends.

“I’m guessing the loss of double lunch didn’t leave a huge dent in 57th Street businesses’ income, but there are still a lot of people I know that don’t have the time to go to any of them anymore. I definitely miss the convenience of double lunch, since it was great having time to relax and finally not need to be somewhere.”

Junior Steven Glick also believes nothing beneficial was created by removing double lunch.

“**I USUALLY ATE** lunch or went to clubs, like math team,” Steven said. “During double lunch, I would commonly eat at Subway, Salonica, Edwardos, Noodles Etc. and Harold’s Chicken. I don’t eat at any of those places anymore. I do not feel I have benefitted from the extra time in place of double lunch. I have no chances to do anything, so sometimes I kill time doing something random. It would be nice if it came back, the extra period I mean.”

Not everyone is grieving the loss of double lunch. Having 5th period free, Sophomore Alexis Acosta says she has enough time to finish work everyday.

“I don’t really miss it that much, though,” Alexis said. “I have 5th free every day, which is pretty nice. I can’t usually go off-campus with friends, since not everyone has a free period after lunch. I can somewhat go out with people during the free periods everyone has on Thursdays and Fridays, but sometimes there are assemblies, so it’s not consistent.”

“Last year I mainly went to study groups for my biology class. During double lunch, I did a lot of work, and sometimes I would also take that time to take a break, like to Potbelly’s. If I did have a choice though, I would be fine with changing the schedule back to the way it was last year.

“I think the reason a lot of people have a problem with losing double lunch is because there’s not much of a break during the school day, since they don’t have time to do homework or relax, so they don’t have a balance they need to move forward.”



## Hot dog!

**NINE STUDENTS from Stuttgart, Germany, lived with U-Highers October 14-November 3, returning a visit from U-Highers last July. Feasting on Chicago style hot dogs and homemade desserts, Freshman David Yunis, left in the photo, and his guest Lorenzo Lombreschi enjoy a welcoming party October 15 at the Daiter Art Gallery, Downtown.**

“The clothes here are much cheaper than in Germany, so I went every Friday and Saturday shopping,” Lorenzo said. “There are a lot more shopping streets than in Stuttgart. Here, there is a Starbucks every 20 meters, but we only have one or two.” Photo by Christian Castaneda.

# Presidential campaign

(continued from front page)

Mitt Romney because he is vastly more elusive.

“Last election cycle he ran the worst campaign I’ve ever seen but he has improved dramatically. I am very unimpressed with everyone in the field except Romney, who I now take seriously. Romney can fix the problems and he knows how to. He has an effective message and it’s going to be a real contest and the outcome is unknown.”

History Teacher Charles Branham believes the only thing that could hurt Obama’s chance of re-election is the economy.

“Obama has a good chance of being re-elected,” Mr. Branham said. “He has a personal goodwill and he is also not easy to defeat. He has been a skilled politician in the past and he also has lots of money.

“On the other hand, I think his chances right now are less than 50-50 because the economy is poor. People do tend to vote from their pocketbooks and it could be difficult for a President with a nine percent unemployment rate to be re-elected.”

# Brief-ly

## National scholarship programs honor high-scoring seniors

An even two dozen U-High seniors have qualified as Semifinalists in this year’s National Merit Scholarship Corporation program on the basis of standardized test scores. In the next step, Finalists will be chosen based on test scores, cocurricular involvement, counselor recommendations, grades and essays.

In the associated National Achievement program for outstanding African-American students five seniors were named.

The Semfinalists are as follows:

**MERIT**—Grace Brody, Gene Cochrane, Emma Davis, Nathan Eckstein, Alice Fine, Sydney Fishman, Hannah Greenblatt, Ary Hansen, Duncan Holmes, Charlie Jiang, Tomi Johnson, Reem Khondakar, Dylan Lambert-Gilliam, Molly Petchenik, Eric Pettinato, Nicholas Phalen, Robert Radway, Charlie Rafkin, JR Reed, Ana Rosic, Gia Rowley, Benny Wath, Kristina Wald, Catherine Yunis.

**ACHIEVEMENT**—Alexandra Barber, Jessica Hubert, Tomi Johnson, Asha Ransby-Sporn, Akila Raoul.

Commended in the programs for high scores were the following:

**MERIT**—Jeremy Archer, Michael Bissonnette, Edward Brooks, Alexandra Chang, Katherine Garvey, Joyce Harduvel, Tom Healy, Daniil Ilyin, Aneesh Kanakamedala, Kavia Khosia, Josh Koenig, Catherine Ludwig, McTavish McArdle, Elizabeth McNally, Georgie Plys-Garzotto, Asha Ransby-Sporn, Mara Weisbach.

**ACHIEVEMENT**—Adrianna McKenzie.

■ **SHOW TIME**—Ranging from magic tricks to a cappella performances to stand-up comedy and martial arts demonstrations, the third annual Winter Variety Show will showcase U-Highers’ talents 3:30 - 5 p.m. this Friday in the “Caf Theater,” also known as the Senior Lounge.

Founder Danny Ilyin, senior, hopes the free-admission show will showcase U-Highers’ creative personalities.

“In terms of the types of talents we hope to have on display at the show, anything entertainment related, from musical performances to even poetry readings, is wel-

come,” Danny said.

■ **MUSICAL MAGIC**—Culminating in a collaborative performance of Adolphe Adam’s “O Holy Night,” the High School Band, Orchestra, Choir, choral ensemble Bel Canto, and Jazz Band will present holiday music and more in a concert 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 6 at Mandel Hall, 57th street and University avenue. Faculty directors include Choir Teacher Katy Sinclair, Orchestra Teachers Michelle Morales and Rozalyn Torto, and Band Teacher Francisco Dean.

“The students are going to perform music they’ve been working on since the beginning of this school year,” Ms. Sinclair said. “The concert will include not only holiday music, but pieces from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Contemporary periods, as well as jazz and world music. The Choir will perform several songs, one of them being the ‘Ukrainian Alleluia’ by Craig Courtney. The song is dedicated to the 25 million Ukrainians who died in the 20th century due to war, starvation, and the Chernobyl disaster.”

■ **D.C. BOUND**—Traveling to Washington, D.C., November 18-21, 16 seniors in History Teacher Susan Shapiro’s Holocaust elective will tour the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and use its library resources in preparing research papers. French Teacher Steven Farver will accompany the group.

The delegates include 10 from the class and six from an evening independent study program with Mrs. Shapiro. They are as follows:

Maddy Campion, Alex Chang, Jacob Chereskin, Rosie Cuneo-Grant, Martin Garrett-Currie, Carol Guzman, Sarah Husain, Leslie Kamel, Josh Koenig, Molly Petchenik, Georgie Plys-Garzotto, JR Reed, Sydney Scarlata, Leslie Sibener, Kayla St. Clair and Shannon Varva.

■ **ALLIES**—With four days of programs Spectrum observed in the Gay and Lesbian Student Educational Network’s Ally Week October 17-20.

Spectrum members led workshops on being an ally to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community; correct

and respectful terminology; and the status of rights in the country. For the October 19 workshop, Bradi Pirtle, 16, of Glenbard spoke by Skype on coming out as transgender in high school.

“Ally week went fairly well,” Spectrum President Mara Weisbach said. “Each workshop drew about fifteen to twenty students, which was a decent turnout but I wish there had been more. Our Wednesday and Thursday workshops seemed to be the most popular, and I was really happy with the way they went. Overall, I’d say it was a success.”



Francisco

■ **FUTURE U-HIGHER**—Another candidate for Lab Schools admission has made a debut! World Language Teacher Becky Lopez and and Francisco Nava welcomed Francisco Rafael Nava in the world October 10. The possible graduate of the U-High Class of 2030 weighed in at 5 pounds, 6 inches.

■ **IN PRINT AGAIN**—A column on legalizing marijuana by Rafi Khan and a boys’ soccer photo by Jackie Robertson appear in the Summer issue of “Adviser Update,” newsletter of the Dow Jones News Fund. The column and photo both won 1st place awards in the annual high school contest of the National Federation of Press Women. The Midway was the only publication to win two 1st place awards. Rafi is now a freshman at Yale and Jackie a freshman at Boston University.

■ **IN MEMORIAM**—Services for former Lower School Counselor Yolanda Scheunemann, who passed away last month have been announced for 2:30 p.m., Sunday, November 20, Thanksgiving weekend, at Bond Chapel on the University of Chicago campus. A reception will follow at the Quadrangle Club. Bond Chapel is located at 1050 East 59th Street on the Quadrangle between University and Ellis avenues, in the southwest corner. The Quad Club is located at 1155 East 57th Street.



# ROAD TO RECOVERY

For injured athletes, returning to their sports offers rewards and disappointments

SECOND PART OF A TWO-PART STORY

In the first installment of this investigation, the Midway examined effects of long-term injuries on varsity volleyballer and track runner Emma Davis, senior, and varsity swimmer Meryl Charleston, junior. Both athletes weren't able to play fall sports this past season, Emma because of a hip injury and Meryl because of shoulder problems.

Battling through injuries during extensive recovery processes, Varsity Soccer Captain Josh Koenig, senior, and cross country runner Sarah Curci, junior, both ultimately returned to action this past season.

After finishing his sophomore campaign, Josh, starting fullback, went on to play Winter and Spring soccer for his club team, Chicago United. During a practice scrimmage April 10, 2009, Josh was playing tight defense on a forward when his teammate contacted the ball, followed through, and hit Josh with his cleat square in the side of his kneecap.

Josh immediately collapsed to the turf.

BUT, TO THE surprise of his teammates and coaches, he got up within a matter of seconds.

"I knew I hurt my knee in some capacity, but didn't really think about it that much when it happened," Josh said.

"After playing 40 minutes in a scrimmage at the next practice, I realized I couldn't change directions at all, limited to only straight-line motion on the field. Yet, all of the doctors I had spoken to the week previously said my ACL wasn't torn and nothing was wrong."

BUT, AT THAT POINT, Josh knew there was a problem. He received an MRI and the verdict, a completely torn ACL. His left kneecap was struck so hard that the single hit moved his kneecap and bruised his tibia. Surgery for his torn ACL took place on June 10, 2010, the day after school ended.

"The issue was that I wasn't told I had a tear in my meniscus following the MRI," Josh said. "I would have had an entirely different physical therapy if the meniscus was operated on, but, instead, the tear became even worse during the five rehab months between June and November because the doctors had expected it to heal.

"I had worked all of the 2010 summer to hopefully return that Winter in time for club soccer, but in rehab the left knee started to hurt again. I asked to get another MRI, and it turned out I re-tore my meniscus, which forced me to undergo surgery on November 2 and miss my entire junior season."

FOLLOWING HIS SURGERY, Josh was slated to return in March, 2011, to his club team, but running on a stress fracture in his tibia caused another setback in his recovery.

"During the entire Spring Quarter, every time I walked upstairs during school, I felt incredible pain," Josh explained. "Unfortunately, stress fractures only heal by shutting down the muscles completely, but being on crutches just wasn't an option for me academically during that quarter. Finally, after school ended, I started to shut down and used crutches for most of the time when I was working in Vermont this past summer."

Josh feels it is especially tough to deal with an injury at U-High.

"AT LAB, you're always told you can do anything you put your mind to, because that's just the type of environment here," Josh explained. "But, a serious injury like mine serves as con-

crete evidence that you simply can't do what you want to do and there's nothing you can do to change that fact. I can do physical therapy but the reality is, until the healing process finishes, I'm still going to be sitting on the sidelines watching my teammates.

"Then there is always the worry that you're running on false hope," Josh said. "Am I lying in saying I can come back? During rehab last summer, doubts were constantly at the back of my mind, which makes rehab so much harder. But, you just can't give up."

Appointed as a varsity captain this season, Josh admits it was a strange dynamic to be a leader on the sidelines.

"I'VE BEEN PLAYING with a lot of these kids since the 4th grade, and I really wanted to stay involved as much as possible," Josh said. "This is a group of seniors who have been playing together for such a long time, and our hope was always that we would have a great senior year together. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case, and we finished 3rd in ISLs. My only playing time during my final season was the last 10 minutes of our 7-0 Regional Final loss to Crete-Monee.

While Division 1 was once a possibility with continued determination during the summer after freshman year, Josh has realized college soccer at any level could be a distant memory.

"I needed to continue to progress to play at a high college level," Josh said. "Now, I'm struggling to play and get back to the level I was at. Injuries are a part of sports but, when it drags on as long as it has, you can't help but wonder: 'Is there something I did wrong?'"

"I SEE things happen that you have no control over, but, during my rehab process, it has been natural for me to ask myself: 'Should I have stepped a second sooner or not even gone to practice that day?'" Josh explained.

"It's so difficult for me not to wonder what could have been if I just took a slightly different course of action. Tearing my ACL has fundamentally changed my life over the past two years. I've been fortunate to dive into a variety of extracurricular activities such as Renaissance, and I have been able to devote more time to Student Council, but it's still tough to accept that a half a second has changed my high school experience."

In addition to Josh's absence, the soccer team suffered from injuries to experienced varsity players including Senior Captain Dean Balabanov, last year's ISL 1st team selection, and Seniors Tom Healy and Adam Picker.

"AFTER TOM BROKE his wrist September 6 against Parker and then Dean tore his PCL September 10 in a game against Walter Payton, both players were forced to miss the last eight weeks of the season," Coach Mike Moses said. "Adam Picker missed a few games as well, because of a hamstring injury.

"If we had these seniors on the field, I think we probably would have finished with a better record and shown a better performance in the Regional Final. As a small school, there's only so much we can mask after losing that talent on the field."

DURING THE SEASON, Mr. Moses felt some players overlooked injuries and should have been more mindful in seeing the trainer.

"Some players tried to self-diagnose their injuries and didn't see the trainer because they didn't want to miss the next game," he explained. "I've noticed injuries tend to be more frequent because there is more pressure on today's athlete to perform well due to the heightened level of competition. When athletes overlook these injuries, it often leads to

an even longer recovery process."

While Josh missed most of his senior season, Junior Sarah Curci reached State in cross country after suffering an injury in a varsity soccer game last April against Willows.

DURING THE CONTEST, Sarah tore ankle ligaments when she tried to cross the ball and her foot became submerged in the mud.

"When it happened, I knew it wasn't good and immediately went over to the sidelines," Sarah said. "I had suffered six broken ankles in the past, so I knew the feeling right away. After the injury, it was especially disappointing to watch the soccer girls continue without me. I loved supporting them from the bench, but it was so hard to watch, knowing I couldn't help them out on the field."

Training over the summer, Sarah rejoined cross country at the end of preseason.

"OVER THE SUMMER, I focused on getting back into shape by doing ankle exercises on my own, but it's been difficult to get back to the level where I was," Sarah said. "I've been running since June but had to take off three weeks in August, so I headed into the end of preseason kind of out of shape. I am now at the same place I was last year with my speed but, had I not been injured, I hoped I would have been faster.

"My goal was to cut seconds off my time this season, but it's been really difficult. Thus, I treated meets more like practice this season and then ISLs, Sectionals, and State allowed me to see how my running progressed. After finishing 3rd at Sectionals, I recorded a personal best time of 18:01 at State and finished just two seconds away from making the All-State team, which was a great accomplishment for me."

FORGING THE strength to never get too discouraged during the process, Sarah received strong support from her parents.

"Everyone gets injured at some time in his or her athletic career, but you just have to do everything you can to stay in shape and fight



JR



Josh



Sarah



## Students trump faculty in blow-out

BUILDING OFF an overtime victory two years ago, 16 students from all four grade levels, including seven varsity basketball players, defeated a team of faculty 42-26 in the Student-Faculty Basketball Game October 6. Raising up for a three-pointer, Student Council Presi-

dent Andrew Palmer releases the ball above the outstretched arm of Substitute Teacher Jennifer Byrd. Despite coming up empty on this offensive possession, student players energized a packed Kovler Gym with their up-tempo style. Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.

through it," Sarah said. "Last summer, my father always kept my mind on running and stressed the importance of State, while my coaches provided positive energy as well."

"Although it's been a tough journey, there's no doubt I've gained a greater appreciation for both of my sports.

"You really just don't know how great the experience is until it's gone. When I finally came back, I was so excited to run. It makes you realize just how much playing sports is a privilege."

## A TRAINER'S TAKE

Hoping to prevent injuries, Athletic Trainer Lindsey Otte is providing teams with stretching regiments this year.

"During the first weeks of the season, I sat down with volleyball, swim, and cross country athletes and went over various strength and stretching exercises," Ms. Otte said.

"We printed out sheets based on common injuries for each sport. For example, back injuries for swimming, and ankle injuries for cross country, and provided each team with resistance bands. We showed the coaches what to go over with their team, and, from there on out, the responsibility was placed on the captains.

"We focused on teams that would be strict in going through the routine and thus decided to not include a few teams due to conflicting schedules. This year, a few soccer injuries were freak accidents with smaller muscles, which probably couldn't have been prevented by regular stretching."

In addition to providing teams with stretching routines, if common injuries surface, Ms. Otte talks with coaches to ensure players are following through with the exercises.

"The problem is that it's hard to stay consistent in preventing injuries in high school," she explained. "It's difficult for athletes to take proper rest, and sometimes we just try to control overuse injuries as best we can."

The trainer's hope is that eventually she will have every team go through the stretching techniques to help prevent major injuries.

## Give Thanks to Great Cuts

Just as the seasons are changing, it's time for a change in hairstyle. Come to Hair Design International, where your hair necessities fill the aisles. Have one of the friendly hairstylists help make the whole family jealous at the upcoming Thanksgiving feast with a trendy cut!



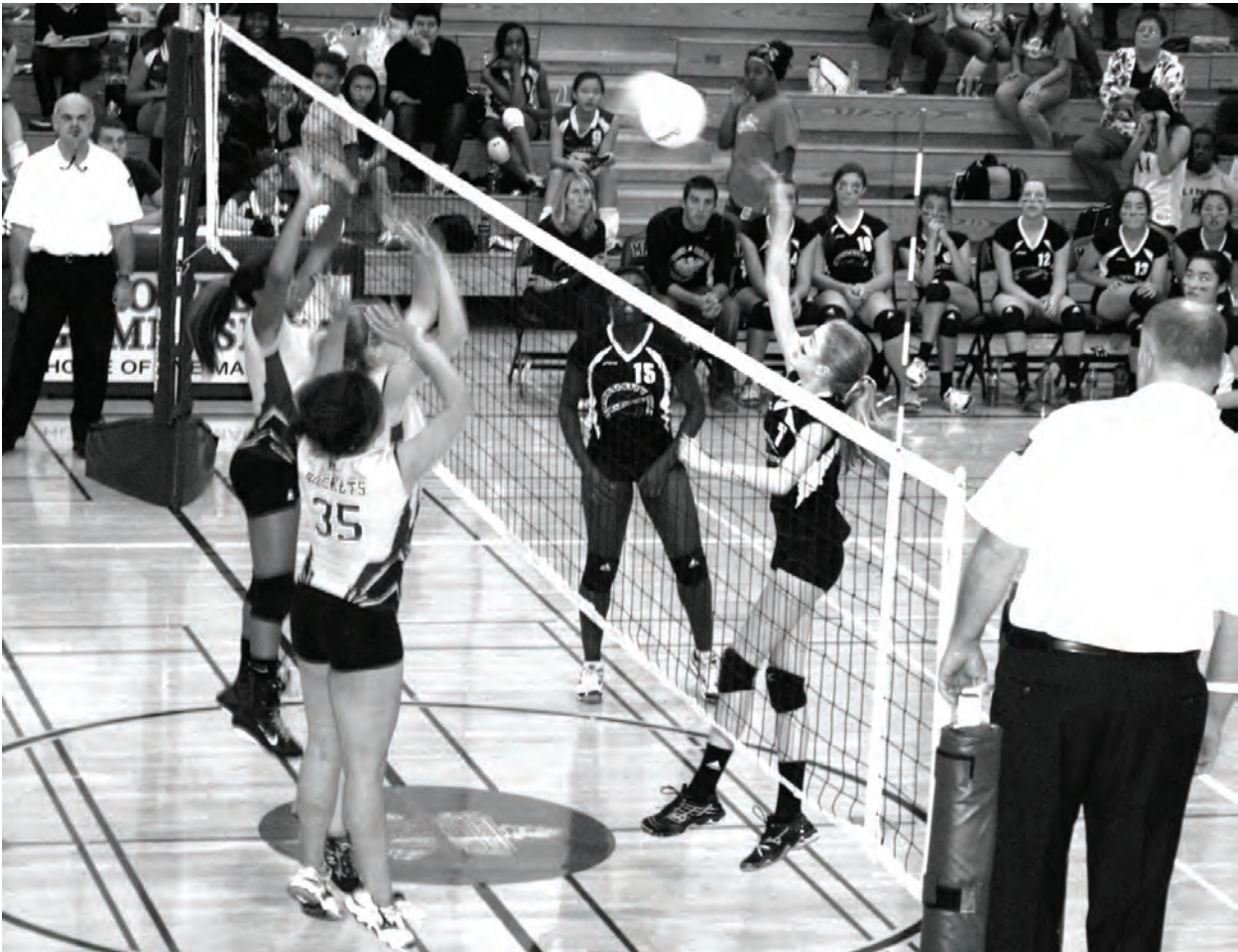
Discussing hairstyles with one of Hair Design International's stylists, Sophomore Portia Williams aims to impress all of her family this Thanksgiving. Photo by Nathaniel Green.

## Hair Design International

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INTERCEPTING A RICH TOWNSHIP ball and up for a spike, Freshman Eleri Miller scores a point for the Maroons 25-19, 25-27, 25-19 win at home October 20, Senior Night, leading the team to a 15-14 record. Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.

# Volleyballers take long view; they’re on their way up from season to season

By Meryl Charleston  
Guest reporter

Losing the first set 25-12 and the second 25-23 against Payton October 26, girls’ volleyballers ended their season with a 4th place finish in ISL.

Despite their final loss, the team, led by cocaptains Rachel Buikema, senior, and Maya Hansen, junior, finished with a 15-14 record, improving on last year’s 10-20 record.

“DURING THE SECOND SET against Payton, we really stepped it up because we knew it might be the last game of the season,” Rachel said. “We played really well but I think Payton was just a lot better than us.

“I think we surprised ourselves by getting all the way up to 23. They hit the ball with power, and it went all over the court but our defense stepped up, and that was probably the best facet of our game.”

Beginning the season facing problems receiving serves, the Maroons focused on that area throughout the Fall.

“WHEN THE OPPOSING TEAM served to us, our first pass was not to zone seven, which is where the setter gets the ball,” Coach Lisa Miller said.

“Jabria, our setter, would have to run all over the place. We did so many punitive and reward drills, often variations of the same drills. Sometimes we did sprints every time the ball wasn’t in zone seven, but no one complained because they all had the single goal of improving serve receiving.

By the last couple weeks of the season, that part of our game was much better.”

Solid in receiving serves by the season’s end, the Maroons look forward to working on improving all aspects of their game next year.

“THE TEAM KIND OF stabilized in terms of ability this year,” Rachel said. “Next year we’ll be able to build off of that foundation and learn new skills that are at a higher level.”

Struggling to communicate, j.v. players expressed different assessments of their season..

“During the start of the season, we all decided that we wanted to play to win,” said Ramona Chatman-Morris, cocaptain with Jaime Toepp, both juniors.

“TOWARDS THE MIDDLE of the season, some people changed their minds and strayed from that goal. They couldn’t deal with the pressure and commitment that the game required.

“In general, some people took volleyball more seriously than others.

# Golfers sent two to Sectionals after challenging season

By Sonia Bourdaughs  
Associate editor

Despite a 1-9 record and three of six varsity players being sophomores, the golf team sent two members to Sectionals. Sophomore Rahul Mehta went to the boys’ Sectionals in Freeport (west of Rockford), October 10, and Senior Akila Raoul, captain, to the girls’ Sectionals at the Golf Club of Illinois in northwest suburban Algonquin also October 10.

Both making Sectionals for the second consecutive season, neither Akila nor Rahul were able to advance to the State level. At boy’s Sectionals, Rahul scored a 96 and at the girls’ Akila ended her final round with a 112.

JUST SIX STROKES from the State qualification score of 90, Rahul finished Sectionals unsatisfied.

“The way qualifying for Sectionals works, the top three team members from Regionals advance,” Rahul said. “The next 10 individuals not on qualifying teams move onto sectionals.

“I was the eighth qualifier, shooting a 93 and then advancing to Sectionals, where I shot a 96. The course at Sectionals was extremely difficult in that the greens were playing extremely fast. My putting was terrible, but everything else went pretty well.

“SINCE LAB moved down a division from 2A to 1A, fewer teams participate at Sectionals, but many of the good private schools compete, including North Shore Country Day, who ultimately won Sectionals.”

Though a coed team, the U-Highers competed mostly against all boys’ teams except perennial Maroon foe Francis Parker on the Near North Side.

“It’s definitely different competing against girls than guys,” Akila said. “Boys’ tee boxes are farther back. which makes the holes longer for guys than when I am competing only against girls. It was an adjustment at the beginning getting used to the longer holes, and again at the end getting used to the shorter ones at Regionals and Sectionals.”

“I THINK THAT this year as a team we learned how important it is to stay focused during practices,” Akila said. “It was made apparent this year that the more structured practices were the better we played, so I think that next season’s practices will start out more structured.”

VARSITY GOLF COACH Micah Christensen summed up the season observing, “This year we had a freshman, Will Kortum, and a sophomore, new to the team, Davis Cummings, playing varsity for the first time.

“We have a young, inexperienced team that was just kind of learning how to compete. Next year we will be more competitive, but it will still be kind of a building year. Our best year may be in two years when Sophomores Davis Cummings, Rahul Mehta and Eliot Levmore are all seniors.”

# Tense moments and triumphs for runners

By Jordan Einhorn  
Guest reporter

Throwing his fist down as he views the official results in the coaches only viewing area at the Illinois High School Association Class 2A State Championships in down-state Peoria, November 5, Cross Country Coach Bud James shakes his head.

After 30 minutes of speculating whether Junior Sarah Curci finished 24th, 25th, or 26th overall, her official place was 26th, one spot away from All-State honors. Sarah completed the 3-mile course in a personal best time of 18:01 minutes, only two seconds behind the 25th finisher.

“I HAD TWO GOALS for state, to be All-State and break 18 minutes,” Sarah said. “When I finished the race Mr. James told me I had finished 25th, Mrs. Ribbens said 24th, and Latin’s coaching staff said 25th or 26th. They told me my time was between 17:58 and 18 minutes so I didn’t know what had happened. Waiting for the re-

sults was the longest 30 minutes of my life. It was disappointing to be so close to both my goals, but I couldn’t have gone faster. When I finished my legs were dead.”

Sarah advanced to State as an individual based on her 3rd place finish at the Fenton Sectional, October 29.

SARAH’S season was highlighted by eight wins, including at the Independent School League conference meet, where she was named ISL Cross Country Runner of the Year, and at Regionals, where she beat the Chicago Public League Champion, Dhiaa Dean from Kenwood, by 79 seconds.

“Coming into Regionals, my main



TAKING HER last lap in the three-mile, Sarah Curci took 1st at Regionals October 22 at Washington Park. Photo by Leslie Kamel.

goal was to score as few points as possible for the team, since in cross country the lowest score wins,” Sarah said.

“Before the race I saw that Dhiaa Dean was predicted to be the easy champion and that motivated me to win even more. She has a good kick at the end so I wanted to make sure to start the race at a fast pace and distance myself from her as much as possible throughout the race.”

U-HIGH GIRLS highlighted their season with runnerup finishes at Conference and Regionals.

“Sectionals was disappointing because we wanted to qualify as a

team,” said Senior Katelyn Suchyta, cocaptain with Sarah and Senior Alex Chang. “We knew going into the meet that it would take the best possible race from everyone and unfortunately, while a few runners really picked it up, some of us did not run our best times. However, we still finished in 7th, which is one spot higher than last year.”

AFTER LOSING their entire varsity squad, except for Junior Ben Meyer, to graduation or school transfers, U-High boys came into the season with low expectations for team scores but rallied to a 3rd place finish at Conference.

“Everyone had someone from the team similar paces during races which helped us push ourselves,” said Senior Andrew Palmer, cocaptain with Ben. “Senior Adam Gray and I ran together, and we had the same goal of qualifying for State. At Sectionals we didn’t achieve that, Adam was less than a second away from qualifying, but he ran his best ever and I improved by three minutes over the season.”



# Injuries, bad luck challenge soccermen, determined to the end

By William Chung  
Associate editor

Racked with several injuries over the course of the season as well as a red card that took a player out of the final match, boys' soccer lost 7-0 to Crete-Monee at home in Regional Finals, October 21. Injuries included Seniors Dean Bala-banov and Tom Healy. Despite the setback, Seniors Martin Garrett-Curie, Adam Picker, Philip Lockwood-Bean and Shane Veeneman led the team past Marion Catholic in Regional Semifinals, 2-0, October 19 at home, with Shane scoring both goals. Each of the seniors captained individual games.

**"IT WAS A** very emotional game for the seniors," said Freshman Michael Glick, a varsity player. "Shane scored early in the first half and we took it strong from there. It was the highlight of our season, and one of the best technical games we've played."

Martin was taken out of the game in a red card, a penalty that removed his eligibility to play in the regional final.

"It seemed like tit for tat to me," Martin said. "The other team got a red card, so it seemed like mine was

to make it even. I had received two yellow cards, one for a pretty legal slide tackle, and the other time a kid ran in front of me and tripped, and the referee called a foul."

**COACH MIKE** Moses believes that Martin's athleticism proved crucial to the team effort, and sorely missed him in the final game.

"Martin's physical presence really worked at slowing the other team down," Coach Moses said. "Without him, we had to totally revamp our strategy. We also missed his leadership. I thought we were as prepared as we could've been. We were a little exposed with the inexperience that the team had without many seniors."

The Regional Finals boasted top level competition, with Carlos Pasada, an all-time leading scorer in the State playing for Crete-Monee.

**"WE HAD A** little trouble playing in the beginning, but at half time all



**AFTER SKILLFULLY** dribbling past a Fenwick player, Isaiah Bradley looks to find an open teammate October 6 at home. The Maroons triumphed with a 2-1 win. Photo by Carolyn Voth

the seniors came alive and were like let's go out in a bang," Michael said. When you're not playing Carlos, he is a lot of fun to watch but he is very strong and very good with the ball."

The game highlight Coach Moses said, came when Josh, out for two years after tearing his MCL, returned in the second half of the final game.

"It was a really nice moment for me," Josh said. "It was amazing to be able to play again and since we were down 4-0 at that point, I thought why not give it a shot. I really wanted to be part of the team even with my injury, and I wanted to give something concrete to the team and the only way I felt I could do that was to play."

## Girl swimmers see stronger year reflecting stonger core of talent

By William Chung  
Associate editor

Propelled by four senior varsity members, girls' swimmers improved on last year's finishes at the Bloomington Invitational November 5 and the Maine East Relays October 15, they believe because of a stronger core unit.

Led by cocaptains Catherine Yunis and Sydney Scarlata, both seniors, the Maroons placed 3rd out of 19 teams at downstate Bloomington, November 5.

**THE TEAM** also took 1st at the Maine East Relays October 15 against seven teams in Park Ridge improving on 4th, 3rd, and 2nd finishes the three years before.

Sectionals last Saturday came past Midway press time and will be reported next issue.

Motivation, the swimmers also believe, factored importantly into their success.

**"EVERYTHING WE** did this season had a special element added to it," Senior Sarah Husain said. "Our team had a great way of bringing different people together into one family."

"Bloomington was a great experience, especially when the entire team crammed into a hotel room and watched television together. We also played truth or dare, never had I ever, and other fun games."

Catherine Yunis broke the 50 freestyle record in the 200 medley relay at Bloomington.

**"I WAS WARMED UP** for the race, and I guess things were just in place," Catherine said. "I was really focused on my stroke, flip turns, and dive, and when I started the race, I came up right behind this girl in the next lane."

That gave me some extra motivation because I was trying to chase her down. I missed her by .3 seconds, but when I got out, I was mobbed by everyone and they were like '25.4! 25.4!'

"I couldn't believe it at first, but I asked my coach, and either I was right at the record or I broke it. It was probably the best I've been feeling about



**WITH A HIGH** elbow recover, Kate Franks raced to finish her 200 freestyle against Whitney Young High School, October 25. Kate finished her race 16 seconds faster than her previous time. Photo by Sarah Husain

swimming in a while."

**COACH MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM** felt that the large team, along with an infusion of new talent, contributed to Maroon success.

"I feel this group we have includes a great group of freshmen," Coach Cunningham said. "New swimmers like Kaiti Lochata, Alexis Thompson, Miranda Scarlata and Kate Franks all added depth to the team."

"I also thought that Bloomington was a great way for all of us to interact outside the pool."

**THE TEAM'S** congenial attitude benefited the swimmers in their workouts, Sydney Scarlata felt.

"Everyone was really happy to go to practice," Sydney said. "On some days that I didn't want to swim, there were 20 other people working with me so I felt more motivated."

"There was an amazing team atmosphere, and this is one of the most motivated teams I've been on in my four years here. I think everyone's been really supportive of everyone else and we've annoyed other teams at meets by crowding around the edge of the pool to cheer our swimmers on."

**THE MAROONS TOOK** advantage of social networking to keep the team together outside the pool.

"There was a Facebook thread that everyone has been continuing to talk on, usually way into the night," Sydney said. "I think that it helped connect the team even more."

## Dedicated tennis girls hit tough going

By Carol Guzman  
Guest reporter

Standing in the Rolling Meadows High School Cafeteria, girls' varsity tennis doubles team Leslie Sibener, senior, and Hannah Resnick, junior, anxiously searched for the site director to find out whether they would play another round for the State Tennis Tournament October 22.

After battling 20-mile-an-hour winds and heavy rain in their match, Leslie and Hannah lost to LaGrange Park, in the first round of the tournament, placing them in the bracket for losing teams. Those games were later cancelled because of the weather conditions.

**"WE HAD** a pretty unlucky draw," Hannah said. "We played against LaGrange Park and ended up placing 2nd overall. Leslie and I continued to communicate, and we really played to the best of our ability, but the other team was just more talented. While we were waiting for our next game, there were girls slipping due to the drizzle. Everyone on the back draw list was told to go home because there simply weren't enough courts."

A week prior, doubles team Kavia Khosla and Maddy Champion, both seniors, participated in IHSA Tennis Sectionals hosted by St. Ignatius College Prep on October 15. After their first game against Morgan Park Academy led to a tiebreaker, Kavia and Maddy lost 7-5.

"It was one of the most exhausting games of my life," Kavia said. "Morgan Park kept making so many false calls that Maddy and I asked for a line judge. We were able to play well in the second round and lost by one point during our tiebreaker round. The high winds didn't help matters and didn't allow us to showcase our playing capability."

**"I REALLY** wish I had one more year in order to get farther in sectionals. Considering all the things that went wrong, Maddy and I weren't able to show our true ability on the court."

At season's end, Varsity Head Coach Juliana Lazarevich believes the girls showed commitment and dedication to the team both on and off the court.

"This year I received a lot of compliments from many coaches on how the girls really exhibited great communication and understanding for one another," Coach Lazarevich said. "There were so many team gatherings off the court, and you can see how much they value one another."

**"Bloomington was a great experience, especially when the entire team crammed into a hotel room and watched television together. We also played truth or dare, never had I ever, and other fun games."**

*—Sarah Husain, senior*





FILLING THE ASSEMBLY Hall at International House, Saturday evening October 15, about 275 U-High-ers and guests obviously were enjoying themselves. Clad casually, many boys wore plaid and striped button downs while most girls preferred in black dresses and floral skirts. Photo by Lili Steffen.



DRESSED FOR the unofficial senior class theme “Apache Bros and Navahoes,” Leslie Kamel swayed in a blue one-shouldered dress from Akira accented by a friend’s Indian headdress. Sally Ladsaria wore a diamond pattered dress with large dangle earrings from Forever 21. Photo by Remy Lewis



PEACE SIGNS in motion, Ava Bibergal accessorized her black dress with bracelets from Mexico and a necklace from Cusp in watertower. Photo by Remy Lewis



FASHIONABLE in Guess combat boots and a shimmering silver Kimchi vest matched with an American Apparel dress, Gloria Zingales enjoyed her first U-High dance after a year in Italy. Photo by Nathaniel Green

## Fashions, dance moves to get new look-over

After Homecoming Dance chaperons voiced concerns (also expressed by parents there) with Dean of Students Larry McFarlane about suggestive dancing and fashions, administrators plan to work with faculty representatives and student government officers on coming up with a plan to address the problem.

For several years, senior classes have been coming up with an unofficial theme for their Homecoming Dance fashions, usually (but not always) somehow incorporating the word or notion “whore.”

All those years both chaperons and parents at the dance have been appalled, many asking if there’s any parental supervision when girls are selecting dresses and dressing for the dance (*see editorial page 6*).

Mr. McFarlane is not certain the Dress Code in the Handbook will be altered or added to take in dances or if some other approach will be taken.

“We don’t currently have any Dress Code for dances,” Mr. McFarlane told the Midway. “Part of the problem is that the Dress Code right now is too loose. I think the Dress Code hasn’t really been looked at in a few years and today’s styles need to be a topic of conversation. I’m not sure we want two separate Dress Codes, but one that would meet the school’s needs in a variety of situations. We’re going to make some changes before the next dance.”

Mr. McFarlane also noted, “There was a small segment of people with racy dresses but certainly they got the attention they shot for. We had a conversation about Homecoming in my advisory of juniors and they didn’t seem to think it was a big deal, probably because they’re used to it.”

Cultural Union President Tom Healy said the dance, and its theme “Party Rock Anthem,” overall were well-received.

“The biggest difference from last year was that we talked to D.J. Jamal Smallz in advance and that made which made song choices much better,” Tom said.

As for the issue of fashions and dance moves, he added, “Student Council doesn’t usually get complaints, but at the first advisory meeting after the dance some concerns were brought by students.

“Even if one person feels uncomfortable we have to make some changes.””

—By Hebah Masood, photofeature page co-editor.



THE POPULAR SONG “Teach Me How to Dougie,” boomed as Matt Lawrence showed off his moves. Matt’s outfit was topped with a Cleveland hat from Lids, red Jordan V Raging Bulls, and a swinging Good Wood NYC necklace. Photo by Lili Steffen



FIST-PUMPING to DJ Jamal Smallz’s musical choices, Louis Van Crane jammed “Party Rock Anthem,” one of many songs selected by Student Council and Cultural Union to be played at the dance. Photo by Remy Lewis

Royalty photos by Nathaniel Green

## Royalty



ALL-SCHOOL  
Alex Chang  
Jaquell Hamelin



SENIORS  
Kayla St. Clair  
Martin Garrett-Currie



JUNIORS  
Jaime Toepp  
Cat Ben-Shahar



SOPHOMORES  
Avery Broome  
Jonathan King



FRESHMEN  
Storm Taft,  
Francine Almeda



# The Occupiers are here and you are with them

By JR Reed and Spencer Lee  
Editors-in-Chief

“We are the 99 percent.” Convening in a general assembly in front of the Bowman Statue at Michigan Avenue and Congress Parkway, 3,000 demonstrators brave the brisk autumn wind October 22 to chant these words in unison and provide their support behind the Occupy Chicago Movement.

Surrounded on all sides by police forces at the protestors’ “home base,” these Chicagoans have congregated together to rally against economic inequality and corporate greed.

**WHAT BEGAN SEPTEMBER 17** in New York City as a public movement against the tyranny of Wall Street has escalated into a nationwide phenomenon with Occupy Movements based in 95 different cities. Protestors throughout the country have been largely peaceful, including in the Windy City, where occupiers have started their eighth week of demonstrations.

Head organizers stressed in the general assemblies’ opening remarks that this does not represent a “union movement,” but rather a “movement of Capitalists”, even characterizing it as simply “your movement”. While the core problem lies in American unemployment, Chicagoans have used the protest platform to argue against other pitfalls within society’s structure.

While group members hoped to secure Grant Park as their main stage, police officials arrested 305 protesters who stayed past the park’s 11 p.m. curfew Saturday’s October 15 and 22.

The protestors continue to search for a permanent area to carry on their occupancy to ensure the movement’s survival through the winter.

**AT A SMALL PROTEST** gathering at La Salle and Jackson Sunday, October 24, a tall retired man in his late 50s wearing large bifocals and a fanny pack, whose pension hasn’t come, discussed his opinions regarding the nation’s economic problem.

“When individuals who are getting good grades in college aren’t getting jobs, you see there has to be a clear sickness in the system,” the man explained. “We used to say, if you don’t have a job, then you’re not working hard enough. But that’s not the case anymore. I think it’s definitely going to be interesting to see how much of an effect this protest has on the presidential election. It certainly will create discussion at the very least.”

In small discussion groups at the gathering, two recently graduated college students commented on the difficulties young Americans face.

**“IT USED TO BE** so easy to get a job coming out of college,” a woman in her early 20s said. “As a first year college student, I had already racked up about \$20,000 in debt. With all the college debt I face now, there have been so many problems for me in terms of finding a job. Life seems to be a cycle of paying off various debts, and the reason to get a job is to pay off these debts.

“Nowadays, it’s imperative that you have a concentration. I would even suggest to younger students to spend two years in community college before heading off to college. If the government isn’t giving students, the future, the money to get a good education, I see no way for this country to improve.”

For 18-year-old Alex, an unshaven and disheveled looking senior from West Joliet High School, the future seems unclear.

**“I AM STANDING HERE** today to represent the young generations of the middle class,” Alex said. “My main concern is for my future, and how I can afford it. I don’t want to start climbing a mountain of debt I never see the end of, and the fact that that will probably happen really concerns me.”

Believing taxes are unevenly distributed in favor of the upper class, an elderly woman from Indiana spoke



her opinion of sidestepping taxes with loopholes. “Big companies are taking business overseas, and avoiding taxes that they should be paying,” she said. “Why are we, the middle class, giving away our hard earned money when the big ups don’t need to cough up a single penny?”

**AN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST** with dreadlocks and donned in a wool button-down shirt and khakis with rips on the knees, 50-year-old Rick believes the neglect of the Earth ties together with American greed as the central focus of the Occupy Chicago movement.

“I am standing here because I believe that the environment is being neglected,” Rick said. “This negligence of the earth displays the Capitalist ideals that surround us. We are turning the middle class into slaves to debt.”

A father of three, a Chicagoan in his late 40s feels the Occupancy represents a discussion of society’s problems and standing up against individual issues.

**“SO FAR IN** this Occupancy, I’ve seen a swarm of people with individual qualms and opinions that are personal and unique to themselves,” he said, with his kids standing next to him. “It’s confusing and slightly dysfunctional. The only good I see out of these protests is that people are getting to know one another through talking and relating. It’s been 30 days of discussion, and everyone feels closer together because of it.”

After attending the gathering at La Salle and Jackson, Senior Philip Lockwood-Bean believes the initiative behind Occupy Chicago does not seem to be centered around a primary focus.

“Seeing all of the overlapping ideas of what Occupy Chicago should be about, I couldn’t help but feel like this movement was dysfunctional,” Philip said. “It did not seem well organized, and quite frankly, it didn’t seem like it was going anywhere. I really don’t know how this protest will play out in the long run.”

**WHILE ALSO BELIEVING** the Occupy Chicago movement has been disorganized, Senior Jolisha Johnson still finds positive aspects in the protest because of the wide range of opinions brought to the forefront.

“Even though it’s all pretty confusing right now, the Occupy Chicago movement has allowed people to listen to everyone else and learn about the problems they are facing,” Jolisha said.

“I went downtown a couple of times, and each time the atmosphere seemed peaceful and open minded. I’m glad that I’ve had the chance to go down, and people actually listened to what I had to say about my concerns in attending college and the future, in general.”

**AS AN ATTEMPT** to make as much noise as possible (above) in Chicago’s Financial District, Occupiers of all ages used batons to bang on the undersides of trashcans to the chants of “we are the 99 percent” and “banks got bailed out, we got sold out” shouted into megaphones Sunday, October 23. Occupiers took great satisfaction from making the ruckus, causing drivers in cars driving by to honk back. Photo by Taylor Crowl.

**ATOP A FLOWER POT** in hopes of attracting more attention to the general government’s policies, a masked Occupier dons black clothing to represent his place among the crowd. Photo by Reem Khondakar.



**ONE OF MANY** Occupiers to hold a sign voicing the want for change, a man looks to the street where police are patrolling the sides of the crowd October 22. A total of 305 civilians over the eight week course of Occupy Chicago, all of whom did not resist being seized. Photo by Reem Khondakar.



**STUDENTS FROM** West Joliet High School protested on the corner of Jackson and La Salle Sunday, October 23, voicing the injustice against the “99 percent” and the corruption in America. Photo by Taylor Crowl.

“I’m glad that I’ve had the chance to go down, and people actually listened to what I had to say.”

—Jolisha Johnson, senior

(continues on reverse side)



# History in the making

*(continued from the reverse side)*

Physics Teacher Francisco Javier Saez de Adañia does not know whether or not the movement will ultimately prove successful. “**SOME OF THE LARGEST** movements have started out as small protests,” Mr. Saez said. “Those involved in this movement seem to be responding to social discrimination and protesting overall social injustice, including the country’s financial struggles and the level of credibility in the political system.”

“There are a lot of people who are really upset, and it will be interesting to see how the economy evolves during the next few months because of these protests. Unless Americans regain their faith in the government, people will continue to become more and more upset.”

Mr. Saez believes the Occupy movements represent a significant shift in the U.S. away from a position of apathy. “**THERE HASN’T BEEN** a social revolution in quite a long time, and this could represent the beginning of great change, but only if the ingredients are in place,” Mr. Saez said. “The Winter could unify this group even more, because when the conditions worsen, the protestors could unite to overcome the challenges, if they indeed believe strongly in the cause. At the same time, it could also show a true weakness in the group.”

Despite the movement’s potential, Mr. Saez is not convinced that the protestors have the framework to reshape society.

“There doesn’t seem to be the right attitude or conditions in place in this country to have a significant revolution,” Mr. Saez said. “Right now, we’re in a state of relative security, which is not conducive to this type of change. There needs to be a greater struggle, and the economic system needs to deteriorate even more before a stronger sentiment can emerge both nationwide and worldwide. Something dramatic could happen to accelerate the process and lead to a true revolution, but politicians seem to not be concerned right now with these Occupy movements, and the media isn’t taking great interest either.”

“**IT’S HUMAN CONDITION** for most people to be followers, as in the case of this protest. The way to form a higher society is to create one in which we can all make decisions. None of these types of movements are conducive through today’s political systems. We must create a different system in which more people have greater inner power and thus enable more leaders to develop within society.”



STATIONED AT the entrance to the Continental Illinois Bank (above) on Jackson and La Salle October 23, protestors convened in a 40-person smaller assembly, then broke off into groups and discussed their individual reasons for occupying. Concerns with regards to paying college tuition, receiving pensions, the environment, and increasing taxation served as central topics in many group conversations. *Photo by Taylor Crowl.*

DONNING A Che Guevara t-shirt (right), a middle-aged woman battles brisk wind to display a sign for passersby, encouraging them to join the fight against income equality. *Photo by Taylor Crowl.*

A FREQUENT CENTERPIECE (below) of discussion among Occupiers, banks and corporations, also referred to as the “one percent”, were deemed “profiteers of war” on numerous rally signs at the general assembly formed at the Bowman Statue at Michigan Avenue and Congress Parkway. *Photo by Reem Khondakar.*



STANDING IN FRONT of the Chicago Board of Trade (below) on Jackson Boulevard, Occupiers can be seen holding a range of signs that represent their reasons for assembling, including the economic crisis, wars, and certain social prejudices. *Photo by Taylor Crowl.*



## BOOK TROUBLES?



RELIEVED, Junior Jason Deng finds the book he needed for English class, thanks to 57th Street Book’s wide selection of books. *Photo by Lili Steffen.*

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