WHEN EXCELLENCE IS AN IMPERATIVE, NOT AN OPTION

By Rolland Long

A

lot more than a decade at U-High before I left earlier this month, a junior girl from an Asian family recently expressed her appreciation of her experience at U-High to me.

In 50 years, some aspects of U-High have changed direction significantly, but the name’s the same, and it is the unique school atmosphere.

1963-2013. In 50 years, some aspects of U-High remain, but many have disappeared...for better or worse.

A.A. Good day was late start Mondays were once 8:50 a.m. late start. Early last year, people across the country debated an article by Angela Duckworth after Yale University Law Professor Amy Chua published “Why Chinese Mothers are Superior” in the Wall Street Journal. In her article, Chua advocated strict parenting at home with demanding expectations. Those interviewees who argued that the children would do well in the long term. 

At U-High, we had a special place in this way. I do think U-High has changed significantly, and I think it’s good, because you see the results.

The Old Lab, according to Ms. Fama, was much less concerned about academic issues more than any other part of the school atmosphere.

"My children’s perfect example; don’t tell them I said so. They’re successful adults who got a lot out of the school but didn’t take it too seriously and didn’t excel in the traditional ways, although every teacher remembers them better than their straight-A sister. My brother Chris always got Cs but covered more ground in his own education, according to a 1970 Midway article.

Mr. Magill, the new school atmosphere.

I think it’s good, because you see the results.

MY OLDEST DAUGHTER is living a pretty good life and making a lot of money. I don’t know if my other daughter will go down the same path as my oldest one, but I think she might have a harder time in school.

NOTICING Asian U-Highers talk to him about academic issues more than any-thing else, Guidance Counselor Ronald Tams says he has many come through his office door.

"It’s hard for me to give a percentage. But the over years, teachers have had more opportunities for professional development and growth by going to conferences and through individual study. I think it’s a special place in this way. I do think U-High has changed significantly, but the name’s the same, and it is the unique school atmosphere.

LIKE MANY Asian U-Highers Ellen Ma and Jef Li (photos from top) find it difficult to maintain high grades while having a social life.

Mr. Magill believes U-High has maintained a rigorous but creative environment since he came to U-High in 2006.

I WAS DRAWN to be the motivated, inquiring kids and the emphasis on thinking.” Mr. Magill said. “I really is a special place in this way. I do think U-High has changed significantly, but the name’s the same, and it is the unique school atmosphere.

The obsession all students have with getting into top colleges may not be realistic goals for some, according to Mr. Magill.

"I think the desire to get into top schools follows parents’ expectations. But the most important qualities are still there. The open and inquisitive students definitely still remain.

Ms. Fama agreed. "I think the obsession all students have with getting into top colleges may not be realistic goals for some, according to Mr. Magill.

There was room for the cut-ups and the screw-ups and the pot-heads in class,” Ms. Fama said. “Those kids didn’t engage in a war protest at the University of Chicago. Later, they’ve defended a project that interested them and completed it, and that’s a shame.”

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**Cellphone-banning driving state law proposal raises mixed reactions**

By Duncan Weinstein
Associate editor

Believing the proposal is well intentioned but won’t be obeyed if it becomes law, many U-Highers expressed concerns about a bill the Illinois State House passed banning drivers from using hand-held cell phones.

The bill, which would only allow drivers to use cell phones on speaker or with a hands free device, passed the House 62-53. The State Senate is now considering it. Drivers could use their hand held phones if they pull over, or if they’re stopped in traffic.

“While I think a fair number of people will choose not to abide by the measure, I still think it can change the social pressure,” Andrew said. “People who are set in their ways and phones won’t if the measure becomes law.”

Senior Andrew Palmer also agrees that some people will ignore the measure, he feels the law can cause others to second guess themselves before using their phone in the car.

“WHILE I THINK a fair number of people will choose not to abide by the measure, I still think it can change the social pressure,” Andrew said. “People who are set in their ways and phones will still do it, but I think the law can influence other people not to.

“I know lots of people who put down their phones whenever they see a police officer, but I think there are also lots of people who will abide by the law and that it will do some good.”

Junior Gabe Knight believes people will obey the law because they fear they will receive a ticket.

“The ONLY WAY to discourage people from doing these unsafe things is by giving them a ticket,” Gabe said. “There are other driving rules, like stopping at stop signs, that people don’t ignore because it’s unsafe, and you get a ticket for doing it. I think this measure will work the same way.”

Freshman Karen Repply believes the bill doesn’t go far enough.

“I support this measure, even though I think the use of any kind of mobile device, including Bluetooth, serves as a distraction while driving,” Karen said. “The use of hand-held mobile devices further escalates this distraction, taking the driver’s focus of the road, I see it as a step in the right direction to addressing this issue.”

Freshman Charlotte Elf-enbaum argues that good drivers should be allowed to use hand-held cell phones.

“As long as it’s a responsible person and they have a clean driving record, I think they should be allowed to use their phones,” Charlotte said. “Of course, if they don’t have a clean record, they shouldn’t be allowed to use them. As I see it, it’s a privilege that can be earned.”

While Senior Andrew Palm also agrees that some people will ignore the measure, he feels the law can cause others to second guess themselves before using their phone in the car.

“WHILE I THINK a fair number of people will choose not to abide by the measure, I still think it can change the social pressure,” Andrew said. “People who are set in their ways and phones won’t if the measure becomes law.”

Senior named ‘Illinois Student Journalist of Year’

By Natalie Holley
Midway reporter

While working on the March 13 issue of the Midway, Sydney Scarcia, senior, was surprised when adviser Wayne Brasler called the editors-in-chief office and announced he had received a telephone call from Mr. Stan Zoller, president of the Illinois Journalism Education Association.

“I think that’s an issue with your award application,” Mr. Brasler said.

Sydney later recounted, “I picked up the phone to call Mr. Zoller and he told me that after close deliberation, I had been chosen 2012 Illinois High School Journalism Award ‘Journalist of Year.’”

SYDNEY, WHO HAS held the positions of reporter, associate editor, editor-in-chief and presently executive director of special projects for the Midway, will be honored at an luncheon June 2 at the Executive Mansion in Springfield.

Applicants were required to compile a selection of work to submit for the competition.

“The portfolio took me about a month,” Sydney said. “First I found all the articles and page layouts I wanted to include,” Sydney said. “I tried to include the work I was most proud of but I also wanted to include a variety of different pieces.

“It was really fun looking back over my work. The thing I love most about my work is I can write about people and writing about current events. It’s sort of thrilling to know the news before anyone else.”

DEMONSTRATING HER publication and presentation skills, Sydney formatted her portfolio using InDesign, the software used to create pages for the Midway.

“This gave the portfolio a really organized, fresh and clean look,” Sydney said. “I was able to number the pages of the book and also label the issue date that all the articles were coming from.”

Mr. Brasler believes that Sydney won the award because of her impressive work ethic and the in-depth projects she’s done for the paper.

“SHE HAS A HISTORY of doing investigative reports, especially stories on schools narrow students’ civil rights,” he said. “Her coverage of Stevenson High School censoring their award-winning student newspaper, The Statesman, even scooped the daily press.”

Sydney is the third U-Higher to win the award, the first being Janet Lewis in 1999 as the Director of Public Affairs for Hospira, Inc., in Lake Forest, and Tom Stanley- Becker, 2009, a junior at Yale.

Additionally, John Kuo, 2005, and Rafi Kahn, 2011, came in First Runner-Ups.
Student Council and Cultural Union have given up on a Spring dance and are considering alternative possibilities.

Student government officers protested not having been told that chaplain would stop dancing such as "grinding" at the Winter Formal after a committee including them, administrators, teachers and parents had conducted discussions at two meetings to address parents concerns about dress, dancing and behavior at Homecoming last Fall.

The officers felt the interventions in dancing without student leaders knowing it would cause real problems.

“When I was on the road reporting in college, the print journalism industry was beginning to fall apart,” Mr. Legittino said. “I began to get increasingly involved in communications and public relations with organizations on campus, and began communicating with the media frequently. In 2010, after college, Mr. Legittino founded The Legittino Group LLC, a company to produce live events for television. He set his sights on producing for Steve Poizner, a gubernatorial candidate of California. “I MET with my former Professor Dan Schnur to see what I should do,” Mr. Legittino said. “He ultimately told me to send an e-mail to Steve Poizner’s campaign. In August 2009, they agreed to listen to my pitch. "I put everything in my car, shipped lots of the equipment from Milwaukee in a phone interview. "I started out covering sports for the Midway, but later on Mr. Brasler began encouraging me to write stories about politics. “I was wholeheartedly convinced I wanted to be a reporter. The idea of learning about something different everyday really intrigued me.”

THE UNIVERSITY of Southern California, Mr. Legittino wrote major pieces for the campus newspaper, The Daily Trojan. A journalism school and business major, Mr. Legittino frequently covered politics for the Trojan, getting numerous front-page bylines as a freshman. However, by the time he graduated in 2009, Mr. Legittino was consuming going into other journalistic careers. “It’s important to note that in my four years of college, the print journalism industry was beginning to fall apart,” Mr. Legittino said. “When I was on the road reporting in college I realized there were other applicable jobs that didn’t necessarily involve writing for a newspaper. I began to get increasingly involved in communications and public relations with organizations on campus, and began communicating with the media frequently.

“THERE was plenty of discourse between Student Council and the administration regarding this issue. Considering the student body’s reaction to the changes for Formal, we came to the conclusion that no one would really want to attend. "We’re currently planning another event like a field day, or a combination of Labstock and a pep rally. "We’re also attempting to make Lambapoza, the lamb roast in the Courtyard which was started unofficially by last year’s seniors, into a yearly tradition. There will also hopefully be a softball game between grades across other activities.

■ NO DAY OFF FOR FACULTY—While the high school was off school during the break, Friday, faculty members came together to work in groups on professional development projects they had earlier proposed. “A one-day May Project may be making it a bit gentler, but both May Project and In-Service day strive for a similar goal; to help those participating grow and learn in a way not possibly simply through sitting in a classroom, teaching or being taught,” explained Mr. Jason Lopez, Lab Schools associate director for educational programs.

“Teachers had teamed together with fellow coworkers of their subject to pursue a common interest, wrote up a proposal, and brought it to an administrator familiar or sympathetic with their idea.

■ MORE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC—Classical music and festive marches will fill Mandel Hall, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 8. The public is invited.

The orchestra will perform “Putting on the Ritz” by Irving Berlin, “Arlington Sketches” by Elliot A. Del Borgo, and “The Moldau” by Bedrich Smetana.

The Band will perform “March from Third Suite” by Holst, “Dance Fanfare” by James Newton Howard, from the 2008 film, including a flute solo from Freshman Gerti Rose, “Allegro Vivace” by Gary Fagin, and “Canto” by W. Francis McBeth. As a finale, the Band and Orchestra will combine to perform Beethoven’s “Egmont Overture.” The Band is paying tribute to the late Dr. McBeth, a world-renowned composer and longtime professor at Oakland Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, following his death in January.

Former Midway editor on Romney campaign

By Michael Glick Midway reporter

Four cities. Four days. Just an average week for John Legittino. Since February, Mr. Legittino, U-High Class of 2005, has worked as the Director of Production for Republican Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney. He and his company, The Legittino Group LLC, assist in producing Romney’s televised events. This year work with lighting and staging, among other logistics. While still managing his company’s other events, Mr. Legittino travels across the country with the campaign.

Legittino became interested in politics at U-High as a writer for the Midway under Midway Adviser Wayne Brasler. He was editor-in-chief of the Midway as a senior and received the AI Neuhaub Free Speech Award, ranking him the top male journalist in the state.

“Journalism was a huge part of my experience at U-High,” Mr. Legittino said. “We took a lot from Midway to Milwaukee in a phone interview. ”

“I started out covering sports for the Midway, but later on Mr. Brasler began encouraging me to write stories about politics. “I was wholeheartedly convinced I wanted to be a reporter. The idea of learning about something different everyday really intrigued me.”

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In 2010, after college, Mr. Legittino founded The Legittino Group LLC, a company to produce live events for television. He set his sights on producing for Steve Poizner, a gubernatorial candidate of California. “I MET with my former Professor Dan Schnur to see what I should do,” Mr. Legittino said. “He ultimately told me to send an e-mail to Steve Poizner’s campaign. In August 2009, they agreed to listen to my pitch.

“I pretty much just dismissed it as being done. “I flew up to do the press conference with very little prep time. Two weeks later they called to ask me to be a volunteer to help with their meeting and pretty soon after I became our exclusive event service provider.

“Soon after he decided to pursue, he became the portfolio in the room,” President Candidate Mitt Romney’s 2012 campaign. “I HADN’T worked that hard on the road for nothing,” Mr. Legittino said.

“I put everything in my car, shipped lots of the equipment and moved to Boston to try to get on the Romney campaign. Very soon after I arrived in Boston, I met Governor Romney’s Director of Operations for an interview over lunch. Although he had never heard of me, he invited me to start hanging around.”

While Mr. Legittino has enjoyed travelling across the country with the campaign, he says coming back to the University of Chicago is his one career goal. “When the Illinois Primary came around, it was a real thrill for me.” Mr. Legittino said. “It’s one thing to get to travel to new places and see things you’ve never seen before. It was a whole different thing to get to be working where I went to high school. To have my dad and Mr. Brasler in the audience to see the work I’m doing, that’s the highest honor.”
Asian culture impacts youth positively, practically, proactively

(continued from front page)

I do well in school because of myself, not because of my parents. My parents gave me quite a bit more push for colleges, though. They kept up with me, sent me to tutoring, and went to parent-teacher meetings. Sometimes I would run away and not tell them what I was doing, but if they had to do something about it, they always had something new to say about it.

“My parents first came to America, all they knew were good universities like Caltech, Stanford, Harvard, and they were very anxious about having me try to get into college. They told me that college was what made everything I did in high school matter.”

This senior also appreciates that his parents have let him make his own decisions about his extracurricular activities throughout high school.

“I WAS IN the Middle School Aquatics Club for a bit, but I did a couple practices, but then I realized that I didn’t like swimming, I didn’t really enjoy doing it. I have this mid-year that I hated, really hated it. When I told my parents I wanted to quit, they really wanted me to keep doing it. I didn’t like it, I didn’t really enjoy it at all.”

“They were more rebellious and questioning of everything. I th...
They fence together, they cook together, they were even born together: Juniors Charlie, Nathaniel, and Willa Green make up U-High's only triplets. All dressed in hipster fashion with wavy brown hair behind their ears the triplets often go to the movies together. Though they all fence with their club, Windy City Fencing, all year each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from two hours each day, at the Monomonee Club for Boys and Girls on the North Side of Chicago, they keep up with a large social life Saturday nights. They live with their parents Grace Dodier, a U. of C. law professor, and their father William Green, a Neurobiologist Chairperson David Derbes. Chairperson David Derbes.

A 4th grade science teacher, Ms. Hornig passed away April 18 at age 54. She had been diagnosed with metastatic endometrial cancer, a form of uterine cancer, and her mind. When she found out about the evidence that her cancer had spread, she passed away April 18 at age 54. She received her undergraduate degree from Midwest University, in 2006 and 2010, respectively. Students fondly remember teacher.

Ms. Hornig's decision to work at the Lab Schools was unusual given her background since she did not major in education, said Science Department Chairperson David Derbes. "Leslie was brilliant, highly educated, and a forceful intellect," Mr. Derbes explained. He said he was the only person in the lab that spoke his mind. When she found out about the evidence that her cancer had spread, she took it calmly and said "once a scientist, always a scientist." She was so incredibly brave.

"I met her at an organization for University of Chicago newmoms, and I'd known her for about 20 years. She was always devoted to her children, and was also a fervent gardener," Ms. Hornig said.

"DURING HER research for her Ph.D. she worked with rats, and she had a license plate that read "Rat Pup 1." The Science Department is hoping to memorialize her life with brass baby rats placed around a plate that read 'Rat Pup 1.' The Science Department is hoping to memorialize her life with brass baby rats placed around the school."

Several U-Highers, including Senior Nathan Eckstein, have cited Ms. Hornig, for her participation in the Hyde Park School of Ballet's annual "Nutcracker" performance, where she danced as the mother of Clara, the central character, and as a party guest. "She was just a really great person at the 'Nutcracker' because she always knew the steps and what she was talking about," Nathan said. "You could tell she really cared about the performance and that she had tons of fun doing this every year, even after her daughters left the company."

FUNERAL SERVICES were pending as the Midway went to press.

CHARACTER SKETCH by HEBAH MASOOD.

Triplets share fencing, friends, but not personalities.

Becoming friends in nursery school, the triplets consider Junior Hannah Resnick their quadruplet. Living three and a half blocks away, the four of them hang out at least once a week. "Sometimes I would go to the supermarket with them and people would think we were all siblings," Hannah said. "Once I was walking up to their house and the neighbors started saying 'Hey Charlie! Then they realized it wasn't her and started calling me Willa. Finally they realized it was neither of them, but it was hilarious."

THAT'S NOT the only mishap we’ve had. Pushing the triplets’ stroller to the Museum of Science and Industry, Mrs. Dodier said she got many reactions from passersby. "We always spent every Saturday at the Museum of Science and Industry," Mrs. Dodier said. "People would usually say ‘Oh, you have triplets; they’re so lovely.’"

"But once this woman came up to me clearly confused and said ‘Oh my god! Are those twins?’ She obviously didn’t know the difference and I really wanted to tell her, ‘No, there’s three of them, that’s called triplets,’ but I just didn’t feel too bad.

THOUGH MRS. DODIER and her husband were ecstatic when they found out she was pregnant with triplets, the couple knew little about how to raise triplets. "Bill and I were just delighted," Mrs. Dodier said. "We thought it was the best news in the world. I found a pediatrician who had some experience with triplets, Janie Mendelson from the U of C Hospital."

"Through me I met another triplet mother and got advice from her," I was nervous because I’d never raised a kid and now there were three on the way. Anyone who has kids can tell you they’re hard to raise.

THOUGH THEY’ve been together their whole lives, the triplets might not go to the same college. "Obviously if I get into my first choice I’ll go," Nathaniel said. "If Charlie and Willa get in too, that’s great, but it won’t change my decision. I’ll probably like it at first because I’ve been with them my whole life. After a while I might get lonely though."

According to Willa, Charlie and her often don’t feel like they’re living in the same room and yet says she’ll miss her siblings when they move apart. "WE’LL PROBABLY email and Skype a lot," Willa said. "Nathaniel wants to invent a system of carrier pigeons. I’ll definitely miss asking Charlie if my outfit looks okay every morning. I can’t imagine life without these guys though. We all have a similar sense of humor and we cook together and fence together. I can’t imagine doing that stuff on my own."

Emphasizing the pros and cons of being a triplet, Charlie said she identifies herself as the alpha of the three. She likes spending time with Nathaniel and her roommate Willa, but also likes her space, which she hopes to find at college. "I love my brother and sister!” Charlie said, interrupting herself to tell Nathaniel and Willa to stop taking her chips. "We are never bored, but being triplets can be annoying sometimes, because we get into each other’s business."

"WOULDN’T MIND having another roommate at college, especially because Willa always wears my clothes. I won’t miss Nathaniel using my phone to call his friends since he doesn’t want his own. As for our clothes, I’ll just take mine and Willa will be out of luck.

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In a college preparatory school, counselors, seniors need backup

A
fter years of the school splitting seniors and juniors between just two college counselors, a third will be added for the 2012-13 school year.

Class sizes have risen over the years from as few as 103 students in the Class of 2007 to as many as 133 seniors in next year’s graduating class.

As a result, Counselors Patty Kovacs and Melissa Warshall have felt increasingly overloaded between conferences and writing recommendation letters.

Ms. Kovacs says she stays at school until 5 or 6 p.m. on average, and as late as 9 p.m. during the peak seasons in Fall and Spring, advising mostly juniors and seniors about college applications.

After having their first choice for the added counseling position turn the job for one on the East Coast, administrators are still narrowing down choices among the roughly 200 other people who applied.

Administrators say the school has waited until now to hire a third counselor because of budgeting constraints and the recent increase in class sizes.

However, U-High’s college counselors have been struggling with up to eight meetings a day for years now, and that does not factor in time spent writing letters of recommendation.

While it is commendable that another counselor is being added, that’s not enough.

The ratio of college counselors to students at U-High is low compared to some comparable schools such as Francis Parker, which provides six counselors.

The saying “better late than never” comes to mind, but for this year’s seniors it has come too late.

Current and past seniors have already faced the colorless blocks filled with names and meetings when opening Ms. Kovacs and Ms. Warshall’s schedule books.

**THEY ALSO HAVE** been well-aware of the hours

In 2008, Romney’s presumed victory could serve as a call to arms. Months of observed unusual activity of the Republican primaries has ended, and the general election has effectively begun.

But the election won’t be entirely decided by the U-High faithful. National polls show Obama with a slight lead over Romney, but with low voter enthusiasm on both sides.

According to a recent Gallup poll, self described “very conservative” voters have reservations about Romney. But those voters tend to vote every election. Unenthusiastic or not, they might come out in force when the threat of a second Obama term becomes closer, delivering a win for Romney, and helping Republican congressional candidates farther down the ticket.

Plus, many voters blame high unemployment on Obama, and may be convinced by Romney’s history as an executive at Bain Capital. Romney, however, has garnered a reputation for flip-flopping, the topic of many attack ads against him. He’s changed his positions throughout his career, especially on healthcare, perhaps too one many times for some voters.

But Congressional elections lower down on the ballot will prove just as important.

Obama’s last two years have yielded at least one lesson: an unfriendly Congress can seriously hamper the President.

Plus, the new district maps following the 2010 census will debut this election. In Illinois, the Democratic-controlled state legislature redraw the map to favor Democrats, but in many states Republican drew their own maps.

In a low turnout election that will likely be closer than in 2008, U-Highers’ services as political missionaries may mean more for a certain famous Hyde Park resident than ever before.
**FILM MOIRA DIFERRING**

**Much-discussed, child bullying emerges into the glare of a disturbing, acclaimed film**

EVERYONE'S SEEN it happen. Middle schoolers and high schoolers being pushed, kicked, teased by their classmates. But the majority of Americans probably haven't seen the darker side of bullying. Isolation. Stagnation. Suicide. Director Lee Hirsch captures the multi-layered issue with his candid documentary "Bully," which follows the stories of five kids across the United States. Having won a battle with the MPAA to change the film's rating from R to PG-13, "Bully" raised eyebrows even before release.

**THE FILM starts by following 10-year-old Devon Street, Oklahoma. "Fish-face" as his buddies call him, faces daily abuse both at school and, especially, on the school bus. He laughs when his assailants hit, stab and taunt him. The principal doesn't do anything. The bus driver witnesses the violence in her mirror, but just continues driving.**

Watching how his principal handles bullying cases at her school deals a sobering glimpse of what actually happens when adults say "deal with it" with the problem. Absolutely nothing. At one point, she yells at a kid for allowing himself to be bullied. Unreal.

**AFTER "BULLY" was released April 13, she issued a public apology, but still has her job. Later in the film, Hirsch follows 17-year-old Shelby McFarland, a new location.**

BEING a psychiatrist and unfaithful to his wife Vivien, Ben is a lot more attractive one that would not mind being a little faithful son Tyler. Then he drops a bombshell on viewers: 17-year-old Tyler is dead.

**THAT'S NOT ALL. At 11-years-old, kids should be playing with their toys. Ty will never have that experience. Because at 11-years-old, Ty killed himself.**

Though Hirsch couldn't capture the events leading up to Tyler and Ty's deaths, he follows their parents as they start a campaign, "Stand for the Silent," to aim at helping diminish bullying by picking up for those who can't.

From the sometimes shaky viewpoint of Hirsch's camera, one gets a revelatory glimpse into America's schools. And it isn't pretty. For one child, Hirsch broke the sacred pressure cooker. Take warning, as some of the ingredients aren't commonplace. Carcinoma, an Indian spice mix, and sambar are sold at many Asian markets. Serve this for a family dinner of four as a main course.

1 medium onion, diced
2 carrots, cut into snakeds
10 cloves garlic
3 jalapenos, diced
4 1/4 cup soy sauce plus more for pot
3 or tomato paste
1/2 bottle of red wine
3 large pieces of garlic, peeled
1/4 cup any soy sauce
1kvet
1/4 cup sambal
3 tbs sugar (like the butcher to cut into three-inch pieces)
1 tbs cumin
3 tbs garam masala
1 cup candied lemons, preferably peel Salt and pepper to taste

ADD THE onions, carrots, half the garlic, and jalapeño to a pot over medium heat. Once the onions and garlic turn golden, add the tomato paste and continue to cook for five more minutes.

Add the red wine and reduce to half the liquid's volume, about ten minutes. **Meanwhile, puree the rest of the garlic and the remaining ingredients except the broth. Salt and pepper the goat ribs. Brown the pieces in a pan on both sides.**

Now, add the wine mixture, puree, and ribs into a pressure cooker. Put the pressure cooker with lid on over high heat until it hisses. Turn the temperature to a low flame and cook for one hour.

**AFTER AN HOUR, carefully release the pressure from the cooker, either open the release valve or running the pot under cold water. Open the lid and remove the brown pieces of goat, placing them in a bowl.**

Continue to cook the braising liquid until thick. Strain solids out if desired. Add the goat pieces back to warm. Serve quickly, and enjoy the Asian flavors.

A chill, summer-y album

made raspy by distorters and editing, and sound projected through the speakers of a grainer transistor radio. The tracks average about two and a half minutes in length, the whole album clocking in at just below 40 minutes. Highlights include the intricate, soaring "Wild Goose," which directly mimics the melody in Ward's previous companion "A Wasteland Companion." While both are good in their own right, the lack of flow between songs detracts from the album.

**T.V. CHRISTIAN CASTANEDA**

**Hit series bring new ideas to horror stories**

IN ORDER TO leave behind their East Coast lives, the Harmon family decides to move into a house considered haunted, including a creepy maid and the murder site of its previous owners. Not the best idea. Recently completing its first season, the television series "American Horror Story" brought one of the biggest thrills to television this season.

In an initial look at the season premiere, Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk, famous for "Glee," the series airs on the cable television channel FX. This horror-drama centered in its first tale on the Harmon's, Ben (Dylan McDermott), Vivien (Constance Britton) and their teenage daughter Violet (Taissa Farmiga).

"A Wasteland Companion" fits perfectly with the rest of Ward's repertoire, as the record emulates a summery atmosphere that she mistakes for her husband, Ben, and she later in the film, Hirsch follows 17-year-old Shelby McFarland, that of Depression. Strangulation. Suicide. Much-discussed, child bullying emerges into the glare of a disturbing, acclaimed film...
EXHIBITING CHICAGO and its international artists since its founding in 2004, the Zhou B. Art Center on 3838 N. Milwaukee Ave. is a popular spot for art exhibitions and parties. In fact, U-Higher Kristina Wald decided to hold her 16th Birthday Party there. The marquee above welcomes artists to the center, which has recently drawn young artists to Bridgeport.

Neighborhood NAMERSKAE, the Bridgeport diner provides a teenager hangout at a fan Heights Street restaurant. After enjoying the restaurant’s chocolate pancakes, JR and Christian Castaneda share one of the diner’s signature vanilla milkshakes. Good thing it wasn’t spaghetti!

ON BRIDGEPORT’s eastern border, U.S. Cellular Field was built in 1991 in a neighborhood filled with die-hard White Sox fans. Pointing to where the Sox’s old home, Comiskey Park, formerly stood, JR recounts his first trip to the stadium with his father when he was 6 years old.
Math Team heads for State challenge

Coming into the competition with solid accomplishments behind them but also with complicating factors, U-High is preparing for the State Math Competition Saturday, May 5 at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. The U-High team has won the State competition, sponsored by the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics, five consecutive years. “WE DID very well at the Regional Contest in February,” noted the team’s faculty advisor, Math Teacher Nadja Aquino, “scoring the highest among schools in our division statewide. However, the 2nd-place team scored just three points less than us. So it will be a close contest on May 5.” “Adding to the uncertainty, we are losing some juniors from the Regional team because May 5 is an SAT test day. We can’t be sure how the SAT test date will affect other teams.” Regionalists took place February 25 at North Central College in Naperville.

THE U-HIGHERS aren’t taking anything for granted at State, despite their string of victories. “We have been practicing every Wednesday and Thursday during lunch since late February,” Ms. Aquino said.

Science Team racks up multiple victories

Despite being moved to a division with larger schools—a challenge many U-High academic teams and student publications have faced over the years after repeatedly winning top honors—the Science Team won its 15th consecutive championship in 16 years at the World Youth in Science and Engineering Championships April 4 at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.


EVENTS U-HIGHERS participated in included Computer Science; Physics; Engineering Graphics, Biology, Math, English, Biology and Chemistry.

U-Highers have participated in a dizzying series of competitions this year. Among their latest achievements were a 2nd place for the 9th and 10th grade team and a 4th place for the 11th and 12th grade team at the Technology Student Association Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science (TEAMS) State Competition March 9 at the Illinois Institute of Technology. The theme this year was “Smarter Energy; Cleaner Planet.”

EACH TEAM included eight students and took a 90-minute test of 80 questions, then tackled six teamwork tasks. At the United States Department of Education Envirothon Tournament April 3 at Prairieview Nature Center in McHenry County U-High placed 3rd in the county and 5th in the Northeastern Illinois Regionals. U-High delegates included:

Alice, Charles and Juniors Moira Diffending, Miri Epstein, Lone Guzdron, Alessia Guadzic, Jory Itoye, Brieona Locator-Lynde, Rhomne Tomio and Christeine Zhuo.

At the Illinois Science Olympiad Regionals March 10 at the College of DuPage, U-High came in 5th, then proceeded to take 8th place April 14 in State competition at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Participants included:

Hannah, Daniel, Cheyenne, Robert, Emily and Seniors Kavita Khosla, Janaeza Pen and Kaytlyn Suchyta, Juniors Aminat Doss and Yanling Zhang, Sophomores Mia Artcher, Ariana Hardy and Alexandra Rudney, and Freshmen Joy Dumbro.

Debaters again make National Championships

By Sonia Bourdouhs

The second consecutive U-High team to make it to the National Debate Championship, Captain Charlie Ralkin, senior, and Junior Mia Epstein will compete this weekend at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Representing U-High against 71 other teams, Charlie, who went to the National Championship last year, prepared with Mia everyday after school.

“WE WOULD have a great season,” said Charlie. “Our team really became more diverse in the argument we deployed this year and more comfortable across the full brow of arguments from all across the spectrum.”

Laughing as he recalled the energy of some of the sophomores, Charlie was excited by the large numbers of freshmen and sophomores the team has again made up multiple victories.

‘I faced coordinating a team that almost doubled in size this year,” Charlie said. “The sophomores gave the team a different feel. There are a lot of energetic, really driven kids, who really worked incredibly hard. Their energy and intensity has pushed everyone to work harder this year.”

THE ONLY JUNIOR on the team, Mia hoped to get extra debating practice before the Championship. “Charlie and I are doing lots of research and debating each other for extra practice,” Mia said. “As the debate gets closer we will debate some sophomores and seniors, and maybe have some informal competition among other schools. It’s very exciting to know we qualified two teams in two years and it definitely shows our program has progressed.”
Baseballers determined to regain ISL Championship

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Associate editor

Facing off against North Shore Country Day 4:30 p.m., next Tuesday May 1, varsity baseballers, with a record 7 wins and 4 losses as of last Saturday, hope to win Conference Championships for the first time since 2002.

In an away game at Northridge College Prep, April 19, U-High won 4-1 in what Senior Christian Cataneda, co-captain with Senior Mac Sinclair, called the most exciting game this year.

“We were LOSING by only one the entire game and we were able to pull four runs during the last inning,” Christian said. “We had all the bases loaded, and two outs when Benny Friedman, a freshman, got a double.

“After that we were able to stop them with a couple more runs. It was great because Northridge did the same to us last year when we were up by about four more runs. It was great because Northridge did the double.”

Following Tuesday’s game, the Maroons will face Chicago International Charter School the day after, and Francis Parker the following Saturday, both away games at 4:30 p.m.

WITH A 3-3 record, varsity won 13-4 against the University School despite having juniors at retreat.

“After that we were able to stop them with a couple more runs. It was great because Northridge did the same to us last year when we were up by about four more runs. It was great because Northridge did the double.”

“After the North Shore game we talked about how we can’t have mental lapses during a game, because other teams will only beat us if we lose focus. Our next game against North Shore will be at home, and I’m looking forward to it.”

Following Tuesday’s game, the Maroons will face Chicago International Charter School the day after, and Francis Parker the following Saturday, both away games at 4:30 p.m.

WITH A 3-3 record, varsity won 13-4 against the Universal School despite having juniors at retreat.

“It was just a very impressive moment when I came back from retreat and heard we won slaughter rule,” Junior Ryan Selig, who leads the team along with Senior David Philips said.

“The other players were just able to step it up, and since we already have a really small team of 11 players, it was especially impressive.”

“We ALSO WON our first Conference game which was against North Shore, 16-6 with the slaughter rule. It was a remarkable moment when Michael Glick, a freshman, threw the ball to me and we ended the game on a double, which is rare for JV games especially.

“Our goal is to win Conference, and it’s been great to see how much the team has developed. I hope we become more consistent overall and become a team to be feared by the conference.”

Upholding a five-year tradition to devote Spring Break to training and camaderie in Florida, 16 baseballers traveled to a Disney World camp in Orlando with Varsity Coach Kerorn Walker, Assistant Coach Micah Christensen, and J.V. Coach Dan Dyra.

ENJOYING THE change in scenery this year—previ- ous trips were to Cocoa Beach, Junior Steven Glick went on the Florida trip for his third time.

“We had a three-day pass to go to rides so it was a lot of fun,” Steven explained. “We were there for a week, and the hotel we stayed at was surrounded by other athletes, which was great.

“The team got pretty close and we really got to know each other, which is part of the reason we take the trip.”

I hit my second heromerun in High School this year against North Shore. Even though we lost, it was a really good game. It was exciting to see my infield and outfielders back me up so I could pitch confidently.

Mac Sinclair, senior

SAFE. MATT LAWRENCE outruns North Shore’s ball in a 3-4 loss, away, April 14. North Shore hit a walk off home run on a hard hit ground ball between short and 3rd on the bottom of the 9th. The Maroons will get an opportunity to avenge their loss next Tuesday, May 1, at home. Photo by Revon Khondaker.

Midway Sports
Soccer girls go up against long North Side rival

By Luke Murphy
Midway reporter

Emphasizing circulating the ball to improve scoring, varsity soccer girls will face Conference rival Latin, 4:30 p.m. next Tuesday, May 1.

The Maroons stand at 2-6 as of last Saturday, including an 8-0 loss to Lincoln Way North in Frankfurt at the Pepsi Showdown Tournament. The U-Highers are still dealing with the loss of two former varsity stand-out midfielders Junior Sarah Curci and Akili King, according to Senior Lexi Barber, co-captain with Seniors Sydney Scarlata, Katie Klepsies, and Sarah Schact. J.V stands at 2-2-2 as of last Saturday after losing their last game 2-0 to Northridge Prep April 28.

“I FEEL like this year is unique in that we don’t have the same skill level as in years past, which has forced us to pass more and be less selfish,” Lexi explained. “We don’t have any superfast forwards, but since we’re playing as a team this really hasn’t been a huge problem.

The Maroons are dealing with lack of depth in the forward position by focusing on being a passing game.

“What I really like about the team this year is that everybody contributes,” Varsity Coach Mike Moses said. We play a possession style with the intent of building up play to get into attacking third.

“WITHOUT A DOUBT,” Mr. Moses added, “we are our biggest obstacle, we simply need to score more goals. We only have about eight conference games that actually count toward qualifying for the Independent School League Championship and we lost one to Park- er, so it’s going to be hard to win ISL.”

That loss to Parker came in a 2-0 heartbreaker April 3.

“Parker really moved the ball well,” Mr. Moses said. “Although their skill level wasn’t much better than ours, they built from the back, and capitalized on opportunities, both things are something we are working on. They also used the diagonal back to create scoring chances, something we’ve been working on.”

PLAYING WITHOUT a star player has led the team to become closer on and off the field, believes Senior Lexi Barber. Being declared out for the year after tearing her ACL March 27 near the south sideline of Jackman Field, Lexi played every position.

“In the last two years, the team has become very close. In my freshman year, as a floater, and my sophomore year, there was always one person who was expected to score. This year, we can’t depend on that one person anymore like we had in the past. The one frustrating thing is that I don’t even know what happened when I got hurt,” she reflected. “I just took a red stride and felt a pop. I hope to be fully healed in six to eight months. I wish I could be on the field, but as a senior, I’d love to see us win ISL. When I’m healthy and playing, I played a lot of different positions.”

Upcoming games for the varsity girls include: At Latin May 1, Deerfield HS May 4, and an opponent to be determined May 5 at the Glenbrook Cup.

Driving past two Parker defenders on Jackman Field, April 3, Junior Audrey Hart, helped forward Katie Klepsies make an attempt on goal. The Maroon lost 0-2. Photo by Elizabeth Gelman.
SPORTS

FULL-LENGTH BEARDS: golden goal sudden-death overtime, and 16 teams just starting to battle against each other in what could be given the title of greatest test in professional sports. Yes, boys and girls, it’s that time of year again. The National Hockey League Playoffs have just wrapped up the first round, and, each of the eight opening round series have displayed some of the greatest intensity in recent memory. These first two weeks have been pure madness, yielding 12 overtime periods as of Monday April 23. And it is these thrilling overtime periods that have helped propel the playoff’s ratings to an all-time high.

Three playoff games on NBC two weekends ago averaged a 30 percent increase compared to last year’s coverage. However, the first round of 2012’s playoffs has also been marked by wild brawls, questionable hits, and an unprecedented string of suspensions. While it is true that, in the case of the casual viewer, this physical element has put the playoffs on their knees, avid hockey fans, including myself, are frustrated.

The incredible speed and amazing play-making ability that makes hockey one of the most exciting sports to watch has somewhat disappeared. It’s true the physical intensity must be increased during the playoffs, but let’s not go overboard boys. In the end, finishing the puck, not the man, is going to enable you to lift that Cup over your heads come June 11.

Let’s settle down

Varsity basketballers get new coach for upcoming season

By Max Brown
Midway reporter

Mr. Stewart led the team to a 7-5 end of season run. The Maroons lost to Seton Academy in Sectional Semi-Final, February 22.

Mr. Stewart coached the JV team for five years prior to the season leading them to consecutive Independent School League Tournament Championships. He also coached Morgan Park High School’s basketball team as well as the Mac Irvin Fire, an AAU team.

The Athletic Department received more than 50 applications and conducted four interviews for the job.

Mr. Chad Stewart has been named varsity basketball coach after mentoring the team as interim coach following Mr. Troy Caldwell’s departure in early January.

RUSHING UP to the net for a swift return, James Duran suffered a 1-4 loss with fellow Maroons in a home match against Marion Catholic, April 3. The Maroons will play Elgin Academy next Tuesday, May 1, at home. Photo by Katherine Garvey.

Track teams going for ISL top spot

By Mike Glick
Midway reporter

With long-distance runners and team captains Andrew Palmer and Sarah Curci injury-free, boys and girls track expect to go head-to-head with Latin for the Independent School League title May 4.

The boys runners have competed in six meets thus far, placing 3rd at Timothy Christian April 4 and Luther North April 10, behind Conference rival North Shore Country Day. The girls have competed in five competitions, winning at Luther North over Conference foe North Shore and four nonconference teams. Coach Bud James feels both teams can perform well in the Independent School League and at State.

But with only 13 runners, Mr. James realizes that winning is a challenge for the boys.

With 24 runners, size does not pose an issue for the girls. According to Mr. James, he believes the girls are likely to improve on last year’s fourth place finish.

“I definitely think we can win the ISL title,” Mr. James said.

“We have a very talented group of girls this year who will excel in different events."

COMING TO U-High after 8th grade from Chicago City Day School, on the North Side, Andrew, measured 5-feet, 1-inch. He has since grown 11 inches. Over the years, Andrew, senior has suffered numerous rapid-growth-related injuries.

They have included several back spasms, and, according to Andrew, consequentially stunted his progress significantly as a runner.

“As a freshman, I constantly had to overcome my smallness and injuries, which was hard to do. In my sophomore and junior years I suffered many minor injuries as well.

“This year has been the breakthrough year I’ve been waiting for. I’ve got good time this season, 4 minutes, 49 seconds, and I’m also continuing to improve in the 800 meters. Occasionally, due to our small team, I’m even running the 4-by-400 relay.”

SARAH’S INJURIES have proven much more severe. Since 5th grade, she has broken her ankles six times combined and torn ligaments in them three times. She has also suffered a stress fracture and an overuse injury in her hip in the last three years. This year she has left soccer behind and is focusing on running.

“As a freshman, I mostly did running to stay in shape for soccer, but as I ran more I really began to love it,” Sarah said. “Throughout the past three years I’ve begun taking running much more seriously, and this year I’m 100 percent about track."

In the end, it was about what I had grown to love more, even though I will always love soccer, and this year I’m 100 percent about track."

Mr. Stewart led the team to a 7-5 end of season run. The Maroons lost to Seton Academy in Sectional Semi-Final, February 22.

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Graffiti is nothing new

While a popular way for some students to express themselves, graffiti is hardly a contemporary development. An ancient tradition dating back to 3000 BCE, the term “graffiti” began as an evolving medium to create非法 writing, gang-affiliated art in the 1960s. Contemporary graffiti originated in the Philadelphia and New York City subways as Sharpie-drawn symbols and letters, and later became a segment of hip-hop and gang culture as an appealing illegal means of expression.

Street artists began using spray paint to create their designs, and the brighter, larger works caught on with artists and companies alike. The art director, Pepper-Sharpie Group famously enlisted artist, Peter Max to create an ad campaign for lemon-lime “7-Up” echoing graffiti.

Other U-High graffiti artists

FRESHMAN BOY—Uses Sharpie markers, pencils and spray paint to mix old and new styles of graffiti. “I combine simple, brightly colored old school graffiti with abstract, cryptic new school graffiti by incorporating partially ‘wild,’ or illegible to the untrained eye, letters, but also using a wide range of colors as its traditional style. When I sketch out my designs, I use Sharpies and pens, but when I transfer it to a wall I use strictly spray paint.”

JUNIOR BOY—Creates abstract pieces on stickers using vibrant pencils, pens and spray paint. “A lot of my art has a creepy flavor to it. I don’t try to put any meaning behind my work. I guess the meaning is individual to the person looking at it and their emotional response. I make what I think looks cool.”

Gangs adopted the art form as a method of communication, marking their “tags,” or signatures, to indicate the parameters of their allocated “turfs.” Famous street artists such as the English Banksy, who works most notably in London, Bristol and New Orleans, represent another facet of graffiti, and are staples of urban culture. Sometimes commissioned, but often working incognito, they create street art with an underlying statement about culture or politics.

Graffiti painted on public or private property without authorization is illegal in all 50 states, although there have been established some “free spaces” where artists can do their craft legally. Chicago anti-vandalism legislation states that any persons caught in the act of graffiti is subject to a fine and possibly jail time for up to one year.

THE ART OF GRAFFITI

An underground of highly-visible culture

For Marissa Pape, Associate editor

A spray-painting wall surrounding the Shedd Aquarium one night years ago, a U-High senior boy stealthily pulled out a spray can, quickly painting the word “SYKE” in block letters. This senior, known by his tag, or signature, “Syke,” says that part of the appeal of being a graffiti artist is its street culture aspect. “THERE’S SOME street art that people admire, that takes a lot of skill and incorporates lots of colors, but the graffiti I and most other people do is not about being artistic, and usually just one or two colors of spray paint,” he said. “It’s a rush for a graffiti artist to go out and see their work everywhere. The illegal edge is probably the most appealing part for anyone, myself included.”

“That said, I don’t plan on continuing to do graffiti after I turn 18. The legal punishments become much worse, and I’m not willing to risk that to just tag a building.”

Graffiti by U-High artists such as Syke decorate various locations around Hyde Park and the entire city of Chicago. Abandoned buildings, such as the Stony Island hospital before it was demolished, train right-of-ways and several designated legal locations provide common canvases for student graffiti artists.

STUDENTS SUCH AS Syke follow a long line of graffiti artists, such as Billy “Upski” Wimsatt, who graduated from U-High in 1999. Since Syke’s time at U-High, the number of graffiti artists has diminished. “I graduated last year, leaving only four such artists here now,” Syke, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of legal repercussions, said.

“So I have been interested in graffiti, if any role at all,” Mr. Wildeman said. “I help them legally.”

Some U-High graffiti artists also choose to switch their tags into school extremely well, but I don’t actively put stuff up on buildings out of fear,” Max said. “Traditional graffiti is kind of dumb. A tag doesn’t really mean anything. It just invades the public eye. Some street art is awesome, but most graffiti is adolescent and lame. People who can use a spray can to create a meaningful work are much cooler than people who just go around tagging things.”

SYKE Graffiti as an art form is a tool that Teacher Brian Wildeman says he encourages students interested in the art form to be careful with. “I play a rather cautionary role in advising students who are interested in graffiti, if any role at all.” Mr. Wildeman said. “I help them out, provide a legal arena to do graffiti in, and only there. There are safe-spot graffiti walls everywhere, and while I don’t go looking for student graffiti, when I see it I’m concerned.”

“I think that the impetus for young people doing graffiti is a sense of control. There are so few things in their lives that they are permitted to control, and some of them have a desire to control their own thing whether it’s legal or not.”