President race stirs broad opinion
By Duncan Weinstein

With the two Presidential candidates meeting for their second of three debates tonight, many U-Highers expect a close election, while others see President Barack Obama winning by a large margin.

I think Romney only wins if Obama gets killed in that debate, and I would be shocked if Obama doesn’t come out more aggressive,” a member of U-High Students for Mitt Romney, Senior Elena Skeyes-LaLonde sees many voters disenchanted with both candidates.

“Sadly it is my impression that the results of the coming election will be based on the voters’ loyalty to their party, or that they simply don’t want one candidate or the other to be in office,” Elena said.

“Romney is there because he was the best of the candidates the Republicans could muster up. Obama is there because for some reason he was elected president four years ago,” raising his prediction on intrade.com, a website where users can bet on future events, Senior Cat Ben-Shahar believes Obama will win.

“Intrade creates a stock for an Obama win, and then lets people trade that stock, just like the real stock market,” Cat said.

“If he wins, you receive money for owning the stock. If he loses, the stock goes to zero and you lose your investment.”

“In the past, Intrade has predicted the outcomes with startling accuracy, and the market is giving Obama an advantage.”

Ancient Greece, nightmares and blind dates
By Victoria Aponte-Blizzard

All in black, a Greek chorus praises the god Dionysus, chanting “Bacchae, Evbol!,” meaning “in honor of Dionysus!” Suddenly, Freshman Autumn Espana is hoisted into the air as Euripides’ ancient Greek tragedy, “The Bacchae,” which debuted 2,405 B.C.E., opens the Fall Production, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 1, 2, and 3 in Belfield Theatre.

Two other one-acts, Christopher Durang’s “The Actor’s Nightmare,” which opened October 14, 1881, and Jonathan Rand’s “Check Please,” which debuted August 2, 2003, will provide comic contrast to the tragic “Bacchae.”

Tickets, $10 each, are available in the High School lobby.

First presented in a tragic competition at the Theatre of Dionysus in Athens, Greece, “The Bacchae” won first prize.

“The Actor’s Nightmare” was previously performed U-High in 2004. “George Spelvin, is forced to perform in plays he does not remember rehearsing for, and which he remembers neither the lines nor the plot,” explained Junior Lukas Mireles, who plays George. “The other characters act as if they have been working alongside him for some time, but everyone is a stranger to him.”

Honored as the most-produced high school play for eight consecutive seasons from 2004 to 2012 by the Educational Theatre Association, Jonathan Rand’s “Check Please” presents a series of blind dinner dates that go awry.

“Flowing movement throughout “The Bacchae” require an open stage, points out Drama Teacher Lucia Ambrosini, director.

“We want to give the audience a feel of how ‘The Bacchae’ would have been presented,” Ms. Ambrosini said. “This performance will feature a lot of movement on stage like lifting and dancing. The tragedy is a powerful piece of classical literature on stage and we want it to affect people emotionally.”

“The Actor’s Nightmare” will be performed at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, November 1, 2, and 3 in Belfield Theatre. Tickets, $10 each, are available in the High School lobby.

First presented in a tragedy competition at the Theatre of Dionysus in Athens, Greece, “The Bacchae” won first prize.

“The Actor’s Nightmare” was previously performed U-High in 2004. “George Spelvin, is forced to perform in plays he does not remember rehearsing for, and which he remembers neither the lines nor the plot,” explained Junior Lukas Mireles, who plays George. “The other characters act as if they have been working alongside him for some time, but everyone is a stranger to him.”

Honored as the most-produced high school play for eight consecutive seasons from 2004 to 2012 by the Educational Theatre Association, Jonathan Rand’s “Check Please” presents a series of blind dinner dates that go awry.

Flowing movement throughout “The Bacchae” require an open stage, points out Drama Teacher Lucia Ambrosini, director.

“We want to give the audience a feel of how ‘The Bacchae’ would have been presented,” Ms. Ambrosini said. “This performance will feature a lot of movement on stage like lifting and dancing. The tragedy is a powerful piece of classical literature on stage and we want it to affect people emotionally.”

“The other two plays because they are both zany comedies and will leave the audience feeling good.”

The set for the three-part production must accommodate not only “The Bacchae”’s ensemble cast, but also tables in a restaurant and a dance floor, noted Drama Teacher Allen Ambrosini, technical director.

“The set has different levels which makes it adaptable for the three plays,” Mr. Ambrosini said. “The design allows us to use different areas in which George Spelvin can encounter other actors.”

The production will also feature live music, according to Stage Director Nell Mittlestead, junior.

“Normally our productions only use a variety of recordings and sound effects,” Nell said. “But this Fall we are going to have several live drummers during ‘The Bacchae.’ We want to set the tragic...”
Lock-in, comedy trip head Student Council agenda

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-In-Chief

Focused on bringing the student community together, Student Council members will begin planning events for Winter Quarter, including a combined Senior-Junior Lock-In and a trip to the Second City comedy club.

Having completed its work on the Homecoming Dance, the Council will also continue collating the names of U. of C. professors willing to take on U-Highers as interns.

The idea was first presented by Student Council President Amol Gundeti, senior. “We want to try and increase the opportunities for students to work at the university during the summer,” Amol explained.

“We will comprise a list of professors willing to take on U-Highers during the second quarter. Our goal is to get people doing something in the summer and it helps a lot if you have some experience in the fields you are interested in.

“We’re also still trying to figure out how to get a Regenstein drop box going at U-High and a Senior-Junior joint Lock-In, probably sometime in the second quarter. Better communication between students and teachers remains a long-term goal for Student Council Members.

“I really want to make sure we get some kind of teamwork going between students and the faculty,” Amol said. “That’s our main goal for this year. In the past the student council was interested in service for a day of their Retreat, September 19-21 at the JCC Perlstein Resort in Lake Delton, Wisconsin. Laying down straw as insulation in the photo above, Kassey Kozak, along with her advisory, planted native grasses on Native American effigy mounds at Devils Lake State Park. That evening sophomores visited the Kalahari Water Park in Wisconsin Dells, before returning to school the next day.

“It was fun being able to help out a community in a new way,” Kasey said. “Even if it meant ruining my jeans.”

Stress management conference draws delegation

By Duncan Weinstein
Editor-In-Chief

Attending workshops on stress management, a nine-person delegation of students, parents and faculty will attend a two-day conference in north suburban Winnetka November 2-3.

Offered by Challenge Success, a group that teaches stress-coping strategy, the gathering will feature a keynote address from Dr. Ken Ginsburg, who specializes in adolescents and spoke at U-High last year.

The trip’s purpose is to decide whether to host a similar event at U-High, according to Principal Scott Fech. “At this conference, we’re going to be talking about some of the same issues at U-High,” Mr Fech said. “Students are under stress. What do we do as a school to help? How do we add to that stress, how can we help students manage it. To help students be successful, I think the biggest need is to define what success means.”

Besides Mr. Fech, attending the convention are: Counselor Camille Baughn-Cunningham, Foreign Language Chairperson Suzanne Buss, Teachers Shauna Anderson, Sharon Housanger, and Colin Bennett-May, and Juniors Rahul Mehta and Maud Jansen.

Signs of the times

Chanting strike slogans, approximately 20 Chicago Teacher’s Union members marched in front of Blaine Hall Tuesday, September 11.

With Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s children attending the Lab Schools, the teachers protested as part of a nine-day strike which garnered national attention. Many of the city’s 350,000 public school students attended temporary day care programs until teachers returned September 19.

According to Lab Schools Director David Magill, school administrators weren’t caught off guard by the protests.

“Someone in the media who had heard that the teacher’s strategy would include protesting here knew me and gave me a call,” Mr. Magill said. “I then called city and University police to have them here in case anything got out of hand. The protesters were very polite, and they deferred to the children who were entering the building. It was a little bit of an inconvenience, but they were marching on the sidewalk, and that’s their right.”
By Rebah Masood  
Associate editor

"At the beginning of my sophomore year while I was on the Daily Illinois staff I had a dispute with a co-worker who accused me of violating the company ethics policy. What I had done in reality was a relatively minor infringement: I had arranged to photograph a concert without his approval, but I still ended up getting fired for it. That was the first thing I did when I got to college: I went to any classes was hand my résumé to them, and I got fired. I thought my photography career was over."

But Ramzi Dreessen, Class of 2008’s, career was nowhere near over. Three years later, he landed a full-time job photographing local celebrity events for the Chicago Sun-Times. After earning a journalism degree from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Mr. Dreessen, 6 feet 2 inches with dark brown hair, heard about an opportunity to freelance for the Sun-Times this summer through a friend. After just two weeks, Dreessen’s national and international reputation he was given a job offer to shoot forSplash. Beginning September 9th, with his first series covering Chicago’s well-known Chicanos, local fashion and large events. Though he may seem like a regular Hyde Parker, Mr. Dreessen, born in Egypt, moved in 5th grade before his dad, Mark Dreessen, began teaching U-High science and his mother became a librarian at DuSable High School. Though his brother excelled on the Midway Staff, Mr. Dreessen wasn’t a journalist in high school, and his sister went to Jones High School in downtown Chicago. Not only photographing for Splash, Mr. Dreessen also got a job designing the Daily Splash column that runs every day in the Sun-Times.

“What makes Splash stand out is that it’s a weekly publication that is so compact,” Mr. Dreessen said. “We have such a small staff but we’re able to publish extensive event coverage with extremely high quality.”

Dreessen established, Mr. Dreessen’s most famous piece, which he said gave him a sense of confidence, dates from his freshman year of college when he captured people celebrating Obama’s election. “The picture is of a student mimicking the pose of the Obamas, which wasn’t right behind him,” Mr. Dreessen said. “The photo got published in Dublin, Ireland at the Belfast Telegraph and who knows where else. For the few weeks I just Googled my name and that picture.”

Aside from a few photo shots of action figures when he was 12, Mr. Dreessen’s photojournalism career started in high school. He took four years of photography, and won awards such as the Quill and Scroll twice, with Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts, who remembers him for his gregarious personality. “Ramzi was, from the get-go in photography, very self-motivated,” Ms. Ricketts said. He loved the technical part of learning digital, especially because people first started getting DSLR cameras. He did film in the beginning but he really loved digital. He loved learning all the settings.

Briefly:

57th Street – TEST QUESTION-Eleven U-High seniors have been named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition and from U-High seniors have been named Semifinalists in the associated National Achievement Scholarship Competition. For the first time, the number of Semifinalists adds up to 14, not 13. Why?

“It’s because Meryl Charlestan has been named a Semifinalist in both programs. Semifinalists are named on the basis of standardized test scores. Finalists will be chosen on the basis of test scores, counseling involvement, counselor recommendations, grades, and essays.

Headquartered in north suburban Evanston, the Merit scholarship program was begun in the 1955-56 school year with the Achievement program, for outstanding African-American students, instituted later. Scholarships, nearly 11,000 annually, are sponsored by the scholarship foundation, colleges and universities, corporations and businesses. Semifinalists are as follows:

MERIT-Bruce Alfson, Helen Cim, Meryl Charlestan, Jason Deng, Nero Engiad-Hall, Benjamin Meyers, Caroline Merrin, Shobnam Obharsuwark, Hannah De Shock, Hannah Torres. Yuning Zhang

ACHIEVEMENT-Catherine Adarme, Meryl Charlestan, Eamonn Chatman-Morris, Maxine Nesbitt.

Twenty-two seniors with high standardized test scores not high enough for Finalist standing, have been designated National Merit Consensus students, as follows:

Catherine Adarme, Nadia Bakken, Lauren Blacken, Rachel Bakken, William Chung, Annette Cochrane, Anurin Das, Moira Dehart, Eric Farkas, Marco Natala, Shubham Obharsuwark, Steven Clark, Ramneek Oo, Jena Carstensen, Audrey Hart, Daniel Klonowski, Gabriel Knight, John Lin, Maxine Nesbitt, Patricia Perou, Angela Sherbakov, Duncan Weinman,

HAPPY HALLOWEEN-Mask painting, jewelry making, apple bobbing, hayrides on the Midway and a haunted house will be among attractions at this year’s Bizaarnival, noon-4 p.m. Saturday, October 27, both inside and outside of Sunny Gym.

The Bizaarnival Club, led this year by senior Anastasia Dervin, works with parent volunteers, stages the annual festival for Lower and Middle School students.

Published in 2008, Photographer, 2008 grad, lands Splash-y showcase

An award-winning photojournalist at U-High, Ramzi Dreessen is now a prominent Sun-Times feature photographer.

With music instruction (Brass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Woodwings), vocal coaching, zumba, yoga, and Tai Chi classes.

JOAN’S STUDIO OF THE PERFORMING ARTS right here in Hyde Park offers something for every U-Higher with a talent to nurture and grow. Joan’s wonderful teachers are devoted to help our wonderful students flourish.

Published in 2008, Photographer, 2008 grad, lands Splash-y showcase

An award-winning photojournalist at U-High, Ramzi Dreessen is now a prominent Sun-Times feature photographer.

With music instruction (Brass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Woodwings), vocal coaching, zumba, yoga, and Tai Chi classes.

JOAN’S STUDIO OF THE PERFORMING ARTS right here in Hyde Park offers something for every U-Higher with a talent to nurture and grow. Joan’s wonderful teachers are devoted to help our wonderful students flourish.

Published in 2008, Photographer, 2008 grad, lands Splash-y showcase

An award-winning photojournalist at U-High, Ramzi Dreessen is now a prominent Sun-Times feature photographer.

With music instruction (Brass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Woodwings), vocal coaching, zumba, yoga, and Tai Chi classes.

JOAN’S STUDIO OF THE PERFORMING ARTS right here in Hyde Park offers something for every U-Higher with a talent to nurture and grow. Joan’s wonderful teachers are devoted to help our wonderful students flourish.

Published in 2008, Photographer, 2008 grad, lands Splash-y showcase

An award-winning photojournalist at U-High, Ramzi Dreessen is now a prominent Sun-Times feature photographer.

With music instruction (Brass, Drums, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Woodwings), vocal coaching, zumba, yoga, and Tai Chi classes.

JOAN’S STUDIO OF THE PERFORMING ARTS right here in Hyde Park offers something for every U-Higher with a talent to nurture and grow. Joan’s wonderful teachers are devoted to help our wonderful students flourish.

Published in 2008, Photographer, 2008 grad, lands Splash-y showcase

An award-winning photojournalist at U-High, Ramzi Dreessen is now a prominent Sun-Times feature photographer.
Dancegoers walked out en masse, leading to the cancellation of Spring Fling later that year. While students’ opinions of this year’s Homecoming vary, most U-Highers considered it an improvement from last year’s Formal. Students appreciated the last year’s Formal disaster.

With the Homecoming Dance done and gone, students were unprepared for policies were implemented for Formal, faculty, parents and students. Stricter music policies were enforced to prevent dancegoers from leaving many students on the dance floor bored and uncomfortable. Additionally, many students were confused by the selection of royalty, since fewer knew when or where nominations and voting happened.

Despite this confusion, however, Senior Kevin Luan’s crowning as All-School God elicited chants and cheering. After being diagnosed with bone cancer in his ankle this summer, Kevin Luan is currently in his leg partly amputated. The cheers and U-High pride during his crowning gave a sense of community.

For Romney, electoral math doesn’t quite add up

By Duncan Weinstein

Opinion columnist

With less than a month until the Presidential election, it appears as if the Obama daughters won’t be dancing to the Lab Schools any time soon.

Despite a surprisingly poor first debate performance October 3, President Barack Obama remains ahead of challenger Mitt Romney in many national and swing state polls. Although Obama’s lead has diminished from a September high, he retains an advantage in the Electoral College.

Regardless of the national popular vote, Obama only has to win one of the Big Three swing states – Ohio, Virginia and Florida – to win the election. Assuming the race is even in the other swing states – Colorado, Iowa, Nevada and New Hampshire – he doesn’t even have to get one of the Big Three. Absent from that list are states many pundits expect to be competitive but likely won’t decide the election.

Although Romney picked Rep. Paul Ryan to be his running mate, Wisconsin, a traditionally Democratic state, has stayed blue. In Michigan, where Romney was born, his stance against the auto industry bailout has all but killed his chances. And in Pennsylvania, Romney’s chances depend on a strict voter ID law the state legislature passed last year. A judge recently struck down the law, and with it, Romney’s hopes in the state.

In North Carolina and Virginia, which Obama barely won last time, are conservative enough that if Obama wins there, he will already have convinced enough voters in other states to win.

Plus, Romney and the Republicans will have trouble matching the $181 million Obama and the Democrats raised in September. For all the talk of Republican financial advantage, only the spending numbers even. And their ads were almost entirely anti-Obama, rather than pro-Romney. In a way, Republican ads have proven self-destructive. Since the September unemployment numbers came out, some conservatives have accused the Bureau of Labor Statistics of manipulating the data to help Obama. But during the past 43 months when the economy was self-destructive, the BLS was doing a fine job.

The most ardent conservatives loathe Obama so much, they’re shadow-boxing a foreign-born, Marxist president. But Romney is different. His views are self-destructive. Since the September unemployment numbers came out, some conservatives have accused the Bureau of Labor Statistics of manipulating the data to help Obama. But during the past 43 months when the economy was weak, Romney’s hope in the state.

Midway Mailbox:

Honoring a beloved teacher

Ms. Hornig nurtured that garden as she did many current U-Highers years ago when they were in her class.

She ensured that all Lab’s teachers and students who wanted to learn from the garden had the opportunity to do so, providing boundless knowledge and expertise in its care, even during the summer.

Ms. Hornig, an indelible mark on students both inside and outside the classroom. Let’s all say thank you to Ms. Hornig by naming the garden in her honor. The Leslie Elizabeth Hornig Memorial Garden – now that has a nice ring.
Vintage threads with modern appeal for winter

By Lindsey Aronson
Fashion columnist

On a warm fall afternoon, I stepped into a vintage wonderland with juniors Isabelle Berten and Julian Ehsan. Owners of movie stars from the 1950s tattoo the walls. An old blue bicycle hangs from the creamy, patterned ceiling.

Racks of sequined flapper dresses, funky Hawaiian shirts, and beaten leather jackets spread across the store. We have just arrived at Clothes Optional.

Sandwiched between trendy shops at 2918 North Clark Street in the Lakeview neighborhood, Clothes Optional offers a broad selection of vintage clothing, jewelry, furniture, kitchenware and various knick knacks. The store opened almost 10 years ago and has become a staple fixture in Lakeview’s illustrious vintage scene.

Sporting a patterned maxi skirt, green costume earrings and a white turban, store owner Lori Lindberg explained the shop’s edge.

“I think what makes Clothes Optional different than other vintage stores is that we keep it real,” Ms. Lindberg said. “We hand-pick all of our items and select clothing from different eras so that we do not end up with a store full of solely ‘80s or ‘90s clothing.”

For a Novice vintage shopper, the store can be overwhelming. The slight smell of musk seems barely noticeable, masked by the excitement of the leathers, feathers and shoes lining the walls.

Vintage shopping prevails as an art not to be overlooked this winter, for you may find treasures among the too-big t-shirts and unflattering sweaters.

Though Clothes Optional carries vintage items, much of the store’s merchandise fits into the trends of the 2012-2013 winter season.

“We look for vintage items that are interesting but also on trend. Our customers can buy an entire vintage outfit that follows the season’s trends or simply a vintage shirt to go with a skirt that they already own,” Ms. Lindberg said.

“Right now we are seeing a lot of color blocking, black and white, blazers and colored denim.”

Vibrant leotards, dresses, and shirts stand out among the vivid clothing in Clothes Optional. Brilliant blues and reds dominate this season’s color palate. We spotted a long, cobalt velvet dress and a glitzy red, orange and yellow sparkly maxi dress. Black and white items spice up the store. Isabelle sampled on a black and white color block dress and Julian spotted a black and white plaid blazer among the leather jackets and cotton blazers at the back of the store.

Also in the back of the store sat a rack with a large collection of pants. Men’s or women’s pants, I’m not sure. But what I do know is Clothes Optional offers a one fantastic selection of trousers.

We found classic blue jeans as well as red, purple, and green jeans, which are at their seasonal peak this season’s trend. Men’s or women’s pants, I’m not sure. But what I do know is Clothes Optional offers a one fantastic selection of trousers. We found classic blue jeans as well as red, purple, and green jeans, which are at their seasonal peak this season’s trend.

At Clothes Optional, we offer a little bit of everything,” Ms. Lindberg said. “That’s what makes vintage shopping so fun—it’s like a treasure hunt.”

Poetic folk-rock album tells stories of disillusionment

By Marissa Page
Music critic

With swirling instrumentation and uniquely nasal vocals, The Mountain Goats’ 14th studio album “Transcendental Youth” tells lyrical stories.

Lead singer/guitarist John Darnielle released his first studio album under the pseudonym The Mountain Goats in 1991 while studying at Pitzer College in California. Famous for recording with boom-boxes and incorporating offbeat subject matter in his music, Darnielle shifted his focus to create more thematically consistent music after graduating from Pitzer in 1995.

The next year, Darnielle vowed to “clear my musical tendency for profundity” to encourage widespread reception to the ideas in his songs.

Although the Mountain Goats re-awarded a solo artist for their lyrical stories, on “Transcendental Youth,” Darnielle is joined guitarist/bassist Peter Hughes, drummer Jon Wurster and arranger Owen Pallett.

His voice, a more palatable version of Gadd’s Lee’s with a slight theatrical inflection, alights across album’s 11 tracks, at times contrasting with the unusual instrumentation but never in a off-putting way.

Each of the album’s songs tells an intricate story, drawing from sources including the movie “Scarface” and following a specific character or characters on a journey. Several references are made to drugs, death, theft, and city streets, but these gritty subjects sound less severe in Darnielle’s silky voice.

Highlights include instrumentally complex “Oty for Judas,” upbeat and groovy despite its fatalistic words. “Until 1 Am Whole,” a poignant, eerie tune that gives listeners serious goosebumps; and the title track, incorporating big-band swank with poetic lyrics.
Soccermen take on Meteors again with a vengeance

By Michael Glick

Sports editor

Same opponent. Bigger stage.

Fewer than two weeks ago tying De La Salle 2-2 October 6 at Ratner, the Maroons fell short of qualifying for the state playoffs. But with the team's chemistry at an all-time high, the Maroons once again will take on the Meteors in an Illinois High School Association 2A Regional Semi-final 4:30 p.m. tomorrow on Jackman Field. The Maroons (5-9-3, 2-2-2 IBL) seeded 9th in 19 of their Sectional, have played the 8th seeded 8-10-4 Meteors frequently over the past 10 years, according to Coach Mike Moses.

"De La Salle has improved quite a bit since we first started playing them, and now they're very technically and organizationally sound," he said. "From what I remember, they're pretty quick. They tend to play a fast style, not always under control." 

Steven Glick, co-captain with Lucas Bucheim-Jurri-son (both seniors), says the Maroons expect an intense, spirited match.

"Going into the play-offs, in spite of the fact that we're playing against challenging teams, we expect to make a solid run and compete well," Steven said.

"In the past, De La Salle has been fast, aggressive, physical and very good at controlling the ball out of the air. It promises to be a physical and very competitive game." 

The Maroons finished third in the Independent School League. Northside (5-0-1 IBL) and Parker (3-0-3) finished first and second respectively, and North Shore (2-2-2) tied U-High for third. Latin (1-2-3), Elgin (0-1-1) and MPA (0-4-2) rounded out the conference standings.

Four starting freshmen—Nick Andruin, Joey Co-hen, Alex Foster and Chris Healy—have helped energize U-High. Coach Moses said, adding that in his tenure as coach there have never been four freshmen starters. According to Steven, they've added much for the Maroons.

"Chris and Alex are two of the bigger guys on the team, and they're very physical," Steven said. "They've been key for our offense throughout the season especially in critical situations.

Joey, who has played in nearly all the games, says he was pleasantly surprised by the team's accep-tance of his leadership.

"The team kind of shocked me because I never had talked to the team before, and frankly I was a bit nervous and thought I wasn't ever going to talk," he said. "I thought I'd let the coaches and the older guys do the talking, but the older guys really made us feel like part of the team, and that really helped me come into my own."

Girl swimmers ready for St. Ignatius challenge

By Luke Murphy

Associate editor

After a 59-110 home loss October 9 against Northside College Prep, varsity girl swimmers will face off against St. Ignatius 4:30 p.m. today at Ratner.

According to Senior Patricia Perozo, co-captain with Annette Cochrane, the St. Ignatius meet is always rough. "A lot of the swimmers is always rough," she said.

"It promises to be a physical and very competitive game." 

According to Senior Patricia Perozo, co-captain with Annette Cochrane, the St. Ignatius meet is always rough. "A lot of the swimmers is always rough," she said.

"It promises to be a physical and very competitive game."

The Northside meet saw the swim-mers swimming in different events than usual, according to Senior Stefa-nia Gomez.

"For the meet against Northside College Prep, our coach put us all in random events that maybe weren't our best events, just for us to gain experience," Stefania said. "In addition everybody had something going on, whether it being an injury, a sickness, or just sleep deprivation. Between all those factors we didn't really come in expecting to set any personal bests.

"Nonetheless both Patricia and Freshman Ilana Dutton swam PBs in the 100 Backstroke and 50 freestyle, respectively. I think the fact that we are setting personal records on days we aren't feeling 100 percent and aren't swimming our events is definitely a testament to how dedicated we are to the team.

"Freshman Ilana Dutton was among many swimmers battling the injury bug.

"I swam the 200 medley relay, the 200 free relay, and the 100 backstroke," Ilana said. "At first the meet didn't start off too well but everyone on the team helped me realize I still had a chance to get some good times, and I ended up focusing on swimming a personal best in the 50 free."

Volleyball team gets deja vu with Willows

By Luke Murphy

Associate editor

After a 25-17, 25-20 home win over Cristo Rey October 5, varsity volleyballers will travel to Des Plaines to face Willows Academy, 5:30 p.m. today for the second time in three days.

The 9-14, 3-2 IBL, Maroons will face Rich East High School 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Park Forest, before starting their IHSA regional games October 22.


Senior Rachel Bukema, co-captain with Senior Maya Hansen, expects to beat Willows despite a lengthy drive up.

"We need to make sure to pick up all the tips over the net and just go hard for every ball," Rachel said. "Last year we split with them, but the time we lost to them, we beat ourselves and it was a missed op-portunity.

"According to Sophomore Ivana Jureta, the match against Cristo Rey was a tale of two halves.

"We came out of the gate slow, and in the begin-ning we struggled," Ivana said. "The team just kept making errors such as not getting to the ball on time, or if we did get there on time we would end up missing hitting.

"Cristo Rey started the first match on an 8-0 run, and they were running away with it. But then the whole team picked it up, and we started tightening the score.

"We closed the first match out with a strong 25-17 win and then came out just as equally strong and won the second match 25-20, so we won in two matches."

J.V., 18-10 (6-1 IBL), went undefeated in the IBL before losing to Latin October 9, according to Fresh-man Gabriella Roussos.

"Latin is our biggest rival and we wanted to re-deem ourselves after we lost really badly last year," Gabriella said.

"Junior Elle Hill was really nervous before the game since she previously attended Latin, and our unofficial leaders Tiffany Davis and Sabrina Hol-land were making sure we stayed focused during warm-ups. Unfortunately we just couldn't pull it out."
**Phys ed subs enjoying the action**

By Clay Surmeier

As a member of the physical education department, Mr. Nacu and Ms. Toth have taken on the role of physical education substitutes. With a background in health and fitness, they are able to teach a variety of courses and keep students engaged. Ms. Toth has been subbing for three years, and Mr. Nacu has been teaching physical education for a long time. They both enjoy the challenge of teaching different age groups and subjects. They are committed to providing a positive learning environment for their students.

**Golfers see gains despite losses**

By Michael Glick

Despite a 2-6 record, the U-High golf team has made significant improvements. Coach Christensen has helped the team develop their skills and work towards their goals. The team has been able to see improvement in their games, with several players showing promise. They are looking forward to their next tournament and hope to continue their progress.

**Runners move on after girls win ISL cup**

By William Chung

After the successful performance of the girls’ cross country team, the boys moved on to the next round of the ISL Championships. The team worked hard throughout the season and were able to compete at a high level. They will be looking to build on their momentum as they move towards the state championships.

**Tennis girls look to leave mark in State contest**

By William Chung

Coming off of a 2nd place finish behind Latin in the ISL Championships at Harper College October 9, girls tennis players will compete at IHSA State Thursday at several suburban locations with Tournament Central at Buffalo Grove. The Maroons, 10-2 (6-0 ISL), beat Walter Payton 4-1 October 3 and Mother McAuley 5-0 October 2. U-High placed 3rd at the Oak Park-River Forest Tournament September 29.

Senior Laura Anderson, co-captain with Seniors Hannah Resnick and Beverly Lau, won her last four singles matches at the Loyola Invitational. "We played Oak Park both this and last year and we lost 4-1 both times," Laura said. "While I won, we weren't really expecting anything from the match. However, 2nd doubles went to three sets. I played the same girl that I played last year, who I barely beat in three sets.

"She's a really hard hitter but she had trouble keeping consistent. She was intimidated but I tried not to let it get to me. She had a lot of attitude. She won the first set 7-5, but I came back 6-2. I won the last set in a tiebreaker 8-6."

Windy conditions changed the dynamic at the ISL Championships.

"There was a lot of wind and I think it really affected all of us," Laura said. "My finals opponent banged the ball pretty hard so it affected her less but she was less consistent. She won up in the first set 5-1, but I let her make some mistakes and tried not to give her short balls. I played to her backhand and I won 6-3, 6-2." L-JV 7-3 (4-1 ISL) beat Mother McAuley 3-2 October 2 in the final game of the season. According to Senior Meryl Charleston, co-captain with Junior Stephanie Luo, the teams were evenly matched until the last set.

"Mother McCauley was especially tough for us," Meryl said. "I played first doubles with Stephanie and at first we were losing 2-4. We came back to win that set 6-5. We lost the next set so we had to play a tiebreaker. When we tried to stick to our 4 Cs or four guidelines that we keep in our head when we play, always hitting cross court when returning, being consistent, keeping calm and communicating. We eventually lost the last set 7-6."
**MIKE**

Entering last season with equally low expectations, Chicago’s baseball teams ended the year in dramatically different fashions. While the White Sox finished 85-77, three games back in the American League Central Division, the Cubs squatted at a 61-101 record. That’s only part of the story though. At the trade deadline July 31, the two teams played their cards quite differently. The White Sox took on the contracts of established big hitters Francisco Liriano, Brett Myers and Kevin Youkilis who came from the Twins, Astros and Red Sox respectively. They paid no heed to depleting their already thin farm system, giving up highly touted 23 year-old Venezuelan pitcher Pedro Hernandez.

The Cubs on the other hand unloaded their promising young star pitcher Arodys Vizcaino and Reed Johnson’s. On the way they picked up Paul Maholm, as well as outfielder Matt Garza (28), all young and relatively cheap talents. Plus, the majority of the Cubs’ talent has still yet to reach the majors, and will be on a very manageable salary for the next couple years. They also have the number two pick in the upcoming draft and a ton of salary flexiblity to use on free agents, something the White Sox can’t say.

**LUKE:**

Sure Paulie may be getting older, but look at his numbers in the last two years: 57 combined home runs, 180 combined RBIs, nearly a .300 average. Doesn’t seem like age at all to me. And don’t even try to say Brett Jackson is a piece of the Cubs’ core. With a .175 average, he’s had a career year and they still didn’t even make the playoffs. And this is supposed to determine a success?

The Cubs meanwhile actually have a team that is 101 losses in a borderline pathetic, but as the proverb goes, “the night is always darkest just before the dawn.” The Cubs shed payroll, straightened out and the book will be closed 6-6 with a 3.76 ERA, was going nowhere fast before the White Sox picked him up off waivers. Addison Reed, 23, closed the door for the Sox 29 times. And that’s not even mentioning the likes of young relief pitchers Hector Santiago, key pieces to the White Sox’s solid relief corps.

**MIKE:**

How about Paul Konerko (30), Adam Dunn (32), A.J. Pierzynski (35), and Jake Peavy (31)? That right there is your offensive core and number one pitcher, who by the way will in all likehood walk in free agency. That core, with the exception of A.J., who will also walk, all make around $81 million a year.

The Cubs’ core consists of Starlin Castro (22), Anthony Rizzo (23), Jeff Samardzija (27), Brett Jackson (24), and Matt Garza (28), all young and relatively cheap talents. Plus, the majority of the Cubs’ talent has still yet to reach the majors, and will be on a very manageable salary for the next couple years. They also have the number two pick in the upcoming draft and a ton of salary flexiblity to use on free agents, something the White Sox can’t say.

**LUKE:**

That’s absolutely ridiculous. How can you justify that??

MIKE: Sure Paulie may be getting older, but look at his numbers in the last two years: 57 combined home runs, 180 combined RBIs, nearly a .300 average. Doesn’t seem like age at all to me. And don’t even try to say Brett Jackson is a piece of the Cubs’ core. With a .175 average, he’s had a career year and they still didn’t even make the playoffs. And this is supposed to determine a success?

LUKE: Brett Jackson’s first year numbers sound an awful lot like Anthony Rizzo’s first year in the majors, and then Rizzo came back the next year and hits .285 with 15 bombs and gets on at a clip of .342. And Konerko isn’t feeling the effects of age? In 2010 he hit .312 with 39 home runs. In 2011, .300 with 31 home runs. Then last year, .286 with 26 home runs. Doesn’t look like a good curve, whereas nearly every Cub on this list of his core, is on the upswing of his career.

**MIKE:**

Fair enough, we won’t really know until next year for the Cubs. With the Sox, it’s clear that with their talented young pitching corps they’ll stay competitive for the top spot in the AL Central for many years ahead. If anything, discovering that asset made this season a success.

**LUKE:**

True. A lot of the Cubs’ future success depends on the impact of young players, but at least there’s nowhere to go but up. The Sox on the other hand are stuck in the inscrup- able average tier. Guess we will find out next year.

*Photos by Matthew Garvey*

---

**Briefly:**

**Get a smile on**

(continued from page 3)

their portraits are shot for the 2013 U-Highlights next Monday, October 22, in the Journalism Office, Judd 14. Editors-in-chief of the yearbook are Meryl Charleston, Jordan Ehimwenmaye, Maya Hansen and Sabrina Holland, all seniors.

“Schedules have been posted on class boards showing when each freshman, junior and senior will be photographed,” said junior Tommy Tsao, underclassman section editor. “Everyone needs to tell his teacher at that time he or she will be leaving class for 15 minutes and needs to do that before photo day. If a teacher is giving a test at the scheduled time we can photograph the student whenever he or she can show up at another time,” this Friday, October 19, is the rain date for seniors who were not photographed on their scheduled days, October 8-12. “Be sure to come to the Journalism Office before then to confirm your time,” said junior Emily Hase, senior section editor. “The list has on the senior board.”

The yearbook’s photo editor is senior Nathaniel Green and the sports photo editor is senior Remy Harlow.

WHERE IS THE YEARBOOK?

That’s the question dozens of U-Highlights want to know. The yearbook’s photo editor is senior Nathaniel Green.

**U-High Midway • Tuesday, October 16, 2012 • PAGE 8**

**DUELING IEDS**

Sports editors Mike Glick and Luke Murphy spar over the Sox and the Cubs

---

**Give your hair some flair!**

Eying a new look, junior Nathaniel Green discusses straightening her copper-colored strands with one of Hair Design International’s expert stylists, Neda Markotic.

With reasonable prices and friendly stylists, Hair Design International can’t be beat.

---

**Hair Design International**

1309 East 57th in Hyde Park
(773) 363-0700
Open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

---

**VISITORS FROM AFAR:** Ten students and three teachers from Lycee Belleveux in Fort-de-France, Martinique, will be the guests of U-High families October 19-November 7 as they visit Chicago.

The students hope to perfect their English in preparation to experience Halloween and the Presidential election, said World Languages Chair Suzanne Fech.

“Lycee Belleveux is a private school with some funding from the French government,” she said. “Martinique is a region of France in the Caribbean, much like Puerto Rico is to us. Les Martiniquais are French citizens. They vote in elections, they may study in France.”

Ms. Baum was in touch with the students and teachers because she had worked on a global exchange project using Skype in her French 5 course. She said she had hoped to chaperone a group of U-Highers to Martinique over this year’s Spring Break but the students were unable to participate and so far hasn’t found enough interest.

**RECOGNITION PROGRAM – A**

series of new recognition assemblies kicks off Thursday, November 15 in Upstar Kever.

“The assembly is a way to recognize student achievements in the quarters they occurred as opposed to lumping them together in one event,” Principal Scott Fech said.

“We’ll try to have these assemblies once a quarter. For Fall, we’ll recognize the National Merit Semifinalists, AP Scholars and Fall Quarter athletes, among others. They’ll still receive a formal recognition at the end of the year.”

---

**WHERE IS THE YEARBOOK?**

That’s the question dozens of U-Highlights want to know. The yearbook’s photo editor is senior Nathaniel Green.

---

[Image of photo by Nathaniel Green]
had 25 police districts, the UCPD's jurisdiction and extended patrol area was one of the safest, despite being situated between Chicago Police districts two and three, which are the opposite," Chief Lynch said. The 2011 citywide average had 629 violent crimes per district. Our area of responsibility had 442 violent crimes. That made us the sixth safest police district out of 25 police districts in the city. In the year two our Chicago Police Department's 21st District was integrated into district two.

"It's not a matter of maintaining safety on campus and in neighboring communities. A lot of work goes into crime analysis, resource allocation, and partnership with the Chicago Police Department. There are also very few Universities with the jurisdiction we have. "UCPD covers the University Campus, which includes places like the University's Medical Center and Laboratory Schools. But we also have the authority to actively patrol and respond to service for 37th Street on our northern border, primarily Cottage Grove on our western border, Lake Shore Drive on our eastern border, and primarily 64th street on our southern border."

While many areas outside the University are considered dangerous, severe crimes rarely happen on campus, Chief Lynch said.

"Although violent crime like an occasional robbery does occur on campus, the most prevalent crimes that occur here are theft of property. The University attracts a lot of attention from criminals in an open environment with potential opportunities to steal valuable items."

Chief Lynch still believes Chicago ranks in the top two for the country's most dangerous cities.

"The belief that Chicago is more dangerous than other major cities such as New York, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia is directly related to gang violence," Chief Lynch said. "The largest contribution to that is how entrenched gangs are in Chicago compared to these cities, because in Chicago, gangs have a cultural presence. The son, daughter, and grandchild can all have been part of the same gang. The strength of gangs in Chicago and Los Angeles exist because people might feel joining gangs is part of their heritage, whereas in places like New York it relates to where you live, what street you live on."

While concerned by Chicago's increase in violence, Hyde Park Herald Editor-in-Chief Gabriel Piemonte said in a phone interview that he believes the press has over-exaggerated the situation's severity. "People are sometimes still worried about their safety because they are on the South Side, but our job is to cover the news and report it accurately, not help them cede into fears that Hyde Park is becoming a new Inglewood," Mr. Piemonte said.

"I think you've seen all sorts of reports in papers, like ours, that see a rise in violent crimes in Chicago. It's not a crisis, but we need to be concerned about an increase of violent crimes."

Still, Mr. Piemonte believes Hyde Park is safer than other South Side areas.

"Hyde Park is not dangerous at all," he said. "Economies is a huge part of why Hyde Park is safer, since crime and poverty are linked. Hyde Parkers are very vigilant; if someone seems suspicious, they tend to contact each other and the police. The police presence is also very unique."

Outside Hyde Park, Mr. Piemonte cites the situation in public school and young unemployment as causes of violence.

"School policy is a source of concern," he said. "We have had high schools closed that lead to transfusions and relocations that can put a big strain on teens. Young kids need to work hard in order to avoid violence. Often they need to figure out a safe route just to get to school."

"When you relocate a school, you're not only taking all these people to a new environment, you're also creating new mixtures of people and potential confrontations. Gangs are territorial, so if you move a gang member to another area, you run into problems.

"It would be foolish not to notice the significant teen unemployment rate and not connect it with the recent outbreak of violence. I think any teen that wants to be employed should be. When teens are deprived of jobs, it puts a lot of stress on low-income families."

"I don't really know exactly why poverty promotes gang violence, but I think it has to do with the real lack of options and the deep lack of resources some people have. No one just says 'I'd rather join a gang than get a job.'"

"Some people having a hard time getting employed would see a different world than us. Imagine living with a mindset, thinking not just 'I might not get this job, but I might never get any job, ever.' If you try seeing it this way, you might see why joining a gang becomes a more attractive, legitimate choice.

Night school

Working their way through their children's schedules, parents met teachers at the annual Parents' Night (formerly Open House) September 27. Following dinner in the cafeteria, parents moved between 15-minute classes, with students showing off their work in these various classes. German Teacher Marianne Zemil describes the course work. "It's not uncommon to encounter someone here who has family members in a gang stretching back three generations. The father and grandfather can all have been part of the same gang. The strength of gangs in Chicago and Los Angeles exist because people might feel joining gangs is part of their heritage, whereas in places like New York it relates to where you live, what street you live on."

"It is not unusual to encounter someone here who has family members in a gang stretching back three generations. The father and grandfather can all have been part of the same gang. The strength of gangs in Chicago and Los Angeles exist because people might feel joining gangs is part of their heritage, whereas in places like New York it relates to where you live, what street you live on."

"It's not a matter of maintaining safety on campus and in neighboring communities. A lot of work goes into crime analysis, resource allocation, and partnership with the Chicago Police Department. There are also very few Universities with the jurisdiction we have. "UCPD covers the University Campus, which includes places like the University's Medical Center and Laboratory Schools. But we also have the authority to actively patrol and respond to service for 37th Street on our northern border, primarily Cottage Grove on our western border, Lake Shore Drive on our eastern border, and primarily 64th street on our southern border."

While many areas outside the University are considered dangerous, severe crimes rarely happen on campus, Chief Lynch said.

"Although violent crime like an occasional robbery does occur on campus, the most prevalent crimes that occur here are theft of property. The University attracts a lot of attention from criminals in an open environment with potential opportunities to steal valuable items.

Chief Lynch still believes Chicago ranks in the top two for the country's most dangerous cities.

"The belief that Chicago is more dangerous than other major cities such as New York, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia is directly related to gang violence," Chief Lynch said. "The largest contribution to that is how entrenched gangs are in Chicago compared to these cities, because in Chicago, gangs have a cultural presence. The son, daughter, and grandchild can all have been part of the same gang. The strength of gangs in Chicago and Los Angeles exist because people might feel joining gangs is part of their heritage, whereas in places like New York it relates to where you live, what street you live on."

While concerned by Chicago's increase in violence, Hyde Park Herald Editor-in-Chief Gabriel Piemonte said in a phone interview that he believes the press has over-exaggerated the situation's severity. "People are sometimes still worried about their safety because they are on the South Side, but our job is to cover the news and report it accurately, not help them cede into fears that Hyde Park is becoming a new Inglewood," Mr. Piemonte said.

"I think you've seen all sorts of reports in papers, like ours, that see a rise in violent crimes in Chicago. It's not a crisis, but we need to be concerned about an increase of violent crimes."

Still, Mr. Piemonte believes Hyde Park is safer than other South Side areas.

"Hyde Park is not dangerous at all," he said. "Economies is a huge part of why Hyde Park is safer, since crime and poverty are linked. Hyde Parkers are very vigilant; if someone seems suspicious, they tend to contact each other and the police. The police presence is also very unique."

Outside Hyde Park, Mr. Piemonte cites the situation in public school and young unemployment as causes of violence.

"School policy is a source of concern," he said. "We have had high schools closed that lead to transfusions and relocations that can put a big strain on teens. Young kids need to work hard in order to avoid violence. Often they need to figure out a safe route just to get to school."

"When you relocate a school, you're not only taking all these people to a new environment, you're also creating new mixtures of people and potential confrontations. Gangs are territorial, so if you move a gang member to another area, you run into problems.

"It would be foolish not to notice the significant teen unemployment rate and not connect it with the recent outbreak of violence. I think any teen that wants to be employed should be. When teens are deprived of jobs, it puts a lot of stress on low-income families."

"I don't really know exactly why poverty promotes gang violence, but I think it has to do with the real lack of options and the deep lack of resources some people have. No one just says 'I'd rather join a gang than get a job.'"

"Some people having a hard time getting employed would see a different world than us. Imagine living with a mindset, thinking not just 'I might not get this job, but I might never get any job, ever.' If you try seeing it this way, you might see why joining a gang becomes a more attractive, legitimate choice.

By Carolyn Voth

Visitors to get inside look at school's Open House

Families interested in sending their children to U-High will get a one-day experience to see what's behind the doors when the annual Open House takes place noon-4 p.m. Sunday, October 21. All prospective students and their parents will gain entry into the school between 1 and 2 p.m., beginning with a welcome from Lab Schools Director and U-High Principal Scott Fech, including stops to hear representatives from seven academic areas. The String Quartet, Jel Bont and the Jazz Ensemble will perform in the cafeteria at various times.

"We really want people to be able to come and experience Lab for the day," said Admissions Director Irene Reed, who herself was a U-High graduate. "Hopefully, families will get a sense of our warm community and how everyone is truly a part of the life of the school. We also hope families come away with a good idea of whether this might be a fit for them as they consider their high school options.

Students will serve as guides and in the Journalism Department Midway and U-High's staff members will be at work on publications deadlines.
A Hawaiian themed Homecoming Makeover

Dance Committee sees success in attempt to address behavior issues
By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-in-Chief

Bright Hawaiian leis decorated many dancer’s necks at the “Hawaiian Shirts and Grass Skirts” themed Homecoming October 6 atInternational House, where new strategies were implemented to encourage non-problematic behavior.

Stricter policies and increased chaperone involvement on the dance floor at last year’s Formal had received negative feedback from many U-Highers. The tighter rules resulted from complaints concerning inappropriate dance and dress at the previous Homecoming.

To find a balance between the two dances, a Dance Committee comprising of students, faculty and parents was formed. Principal Scott Fech also met with students during lunch Thursday, October 4 to answer any questions concerning policy changes.

A member of the committee, Student Council President Amol Gundeti, said he appreciated the chance to work openly with faculty and parents.

“Everyone was very respectful and patient, and everybody’s opinions were heard,” Amol said. “We decided that we want to vary the music to allow many different types of dancing; we also decided that teachers should step back a little more in terms of pulling people apart on the dance floor. I think this is something that we are not going to get right on the first try but it’s a good mix of both opinions.”

Students were warned before the dance that country music would be played if their actions were deemed inappropriate.

“Homecoming was a great success; it worked out as we wanted,” Amol said. “There was a variety of dancing and we didn’t have to play any country music. That was Mr. Fech’s call; he stood up by the DJ the whole night, so he got an accurate view of what was going on.”

Also a Dance Committee member, Dean of Students Larry McFarlane felt that communication between students and faculty on the committee helped Homecoming planning.

“I thought it went very well,” Mr. McFarlane said. “Meeting with the students prior to the dance certainly went well. I thought about 150 students would show up and more like 270 appeared. Mr. Fech handled the meetings very well. It’s something he’s done before. We’re not unique in that regard.”

Between snacks and dancing, Portia Williams, Patricia Perez, Annette Cochran and Elena Skoey-LaLonde found chatted in the crowd of about 270. Accenting her Urban Outfitters dress, Patricia’s hat fit the senior theme, “Moby Dicks and Sailor Chicks”

Perfectly dressed for the Hawaiian theme, Dan Klonowski wore a bright red floral shirt as he swayed with Cameron Harter, who wore a simple, yet classic black dress with heels and added a splash of color to her outfit with a bright green lei.

Royalty photos by Fiona Potter, Carolyn Voth and Emma Polson

Bright Hawaiian leis decorated many dancer’s necks at the “Hawaiian Shirts and Grass Skirts” themed Homecoming October 6 at International House, where new strategies were implemented to encourage non-problematic behavior.

Stricter policies and increased chaperone involvement on the dance floor at last year’s Formal had received negative feedback from many U-Highers. The tighter rules resulted from complaints concerning inappropriate dance and dress at the previous Homecoming.

To find a balance between the two dances, a Dance Committee comprising of students, faculty and parents was formed. Principal Scott Fech also met with students during lunch Thursday, October 4 to answer any questions concerning policy changes.

A member of the committee, Student Council President Amol Gundeti, said he appreciated the chance to work openly with faculty and parents.

“Everyone was very respectful and patient, and everybody’s opinions were heard,” Amol said. “We decided that we want to vary the music to allow many different types of dancing; we also decided that teachers should step back a little more in terms of pulling people apart on the dance floor. I think this is something that we are not going to get right on the first try but it’s a good mix of both opinions.”

Students were warned before the dance that country music would be played if their actions were deemed inappropriate.

“Homecoming was a great success; it worked out as we wanted,” Amol said. “There was a variety of dancing and we didn’t have to play any country music. That was Mr. Fech’s call; he stood up by the DJ the whole night, so he got an accurate view of what was going on.”

Also a Dance Committee member, Dean of Students Larry McFarlane felt that communication between students and faculty on the committee helped Homecoming planning.

“I thought it went very well,” Mr. McFarlane said. “Meeting with the students prior to the dance certainly went well. I thought about 150 students would show up and more like 270 appeared. Mr. Fech handled the meetings very well. It’s something he’s done before. We’re not unique in that regard.”

Between snacks and dancing, Portia Williams, Patricia Perez, Annette Cochran and Elena Skoey-LaLonde found chatted in the crowd of about 270. Accenting her Urban Outfitters dress, Patricia’s hat fit the senior theme, “Moby Dicks and Sailor Chicks”

Perfectly dressed for the Hawaiian theme, Dan Klonowski wore a bright red floral shirt as he swayed with Cameron Harter, who wore a simple, yet classic black dress with heels and added a splash of color to her outfit with a bright green lei.

Royalty photos by Fiona Potter, Carolyn Voth and Emma Polson

The crowd cheered for Kaiwen Luan, center, recovering from leg surgery, as he received his Hawaiian-themed crown for “All School God.” Jordan Davis was crowned Senior Queen and Cultural Union Vice President David Tong handed out leis as the royalty was announced and crowned.

As V.I.C’s voice boomed through DJ Jamal Smallz’s speakers, Karla Douglas, Portia Williams and Lillian Eckstein danced the wobble. Portia’s dress, strapless with black frills, contrasted Lillian’s, bright and white dress from BCBG Max Azaria in Lincoln Park.

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-in-Chief

Bright Hawaiian leis decorated many dancer’s necks at the “Hawaiian Shirts and Grass Skirts” themed Homecoming October 6 at International House, where new strategies were implemented to encourage non-problematic behavior.

Stricter policies and increased chaperone involvement on the dance floor at last year’s Formal had received negative feedback from many U-Highers. The tighter rules resulted from complaints concerning inappropriate dance and dress at the previous Homecoming.

To find a balance between the two dances, a Dance Committee comprising of students, faculty and parents was formed. Principal Scott Fech also met with students during lunch Thursday, October 4 to answer any questions concerning policy changes.

A member of the committee, Student Council President Amol Gundeti, said he appreciated the chance to work openly with faculty and parents.

“Everyone was very respectful and patient, and everybody’s opinions were heard,” Amol said. “We decided that we want to vary the music to allow many different types of dancing; we also decided that teachers should step back a little more in terms of pulling people apart on the dance floor. I think this is something that we are not going to get right on the first try but it’s a good mix of both opinions.”

Students were warned before the dance that country music would be played if their actions were deemed inappropriate.

“Homecoming was a great success; it worked out as we wanted,” Amol said. “There was a variety of dancing and we didn’t have to play any country music. That was Mr. Fech’s call; he stood up by the DJ the whole night, so he got an accurate view of what was going on.”

Also a Dance Committee member, Dean of Students Larry McFarlane felt that communication between students and faculty on the committee helped Homecoming planning.

“I thought it went very well,” Mr. McFarlane said. “Meeting with the students prior to the dance certainly went well. I thought about 150 students would show up and more like 270 appeared. Mr. Fech handled the meetings very well. It’s something he’s done before. We’re not unique in that regard.”

Between snacks and dancing, Portia Williams, Patricia Perez, Annette Cochran and Elena Skoey-LaLonde found chatted in the crowd of about 270. Accenting her Urban Outfitters dress, Patricia’s hat fit the senior theme, “Moby Dicks and Sailor Chicks”

Perfectly dressed for the Hawaiian theme, Dan Klonowski wore a bright red floral shirt as he swayed with Cameron Harter, who wore a simple, yet classic black dress with heels and added a splash of color to her outfit with a bright green lei.

Royalty photos by Fiona Potter, Carolyn Voth and Emma Polson

The crowd cheered for Kaiwen Luan, center, recovering from leg surgery, as he received his Hawaiian-themed crown for “All School God.” Jordan Davis was crowned Senior Queen and Cultural Union Vice President David Tong handed out leis as the royalty was announced and crowned.

As V.I.C’s voice boomed through DJ Jamal Smallz’s speakers, Karla Douglas, Portia Williams and Lillian Eckstein danced the wobble. Portia’s dress, strapless with black frills, contrasted Lillian’s, bright and white dress from BCBG Max Azaria in Lincoln Park.