

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Photo by Matthew Garvey

Often seen during free periods in the third floor high school corridor, senior Dan Klonowski and junior Cameron Harte started dating April of 2011.

U-High's Valentine stories

Being part of a couple rates high among the few steadies in the school

By Clea Braendel
Midway reporter

Despite heavily-advertised suggestions for elaborate Valentine's Day dates, many well-known U-High couples hatched no fancy plans for February 14 last week.

About a dozen committed relationships are acknowledged in the school this year, with at least four more added in the past few weeks.

At 6 foot 4, senior Dan Klonowski towers over his girlfriend, junior Cameron Harter, 5 foot 2.

Dan and Cameron met in Studio Art, where Cameron teased a friend for having a crush on him, even though she knew it wasn't true. They started dating April of 2011.

"We started out friends but we gradually sort of gravitated towards each other," Cameron said. "He makes our relationship silly, but it is also serious sometimes when I freak out about tests and school."

Dan continued, "She insists on bringing me things. On the day I finished my college applications she brought me chocolate and a Coke Zero."

"She is obsessed with Coke Zero."

Cameron added, "Dan is also the best baker ever! So whenever I go over to his house he'll be the chef and make something awesome like his famous banana cream pie. He also knows that my favorite type of cookie is the snicker doodle, so he's made me batches of snicker doodles before, which just goes to prove that he's the greatest boyfriend I could ever ask for."

Seniors Egle Tamulynas-Mendoza and Gabe Ovsiew have been dating since October, when Gabe asked Egle out after crushing on her for a year.

"We were in the same van for community service, and it was just the two of us so we had a lot of time to talk," Egle said.

Smiling, Gabe added, "I liked her originally because she was pretty. But I've also learned that Egle is a very, very caring person, and how motivated she can be when working for a cause that really resonates with her beliefs."

Before Gabe told Egle that he liked her, Egle asked him to go downtown with her and a friend.

"We had just started talking, so Egle couldn't have known that I liked her yet," Gabe said. "Her friend

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School may require every student have laptops or tablets

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-in-Chief

U-Highers may be required to purchase and bring their own laptops or tablets to school in the future.

Last year, all four grades, 9th through 12th, took a computer-usage survey. About 89 per cent reported already owning an individual laptop. Led by Director of Information Technology Curt Lienick, a proposal to have all students bring their own computers to school, known as going "one-to-one," has started taking shape.

"I started actively pursuing this about one and a half years ago," Mr. Lienick said. "Nothing is concrete in this area, and if anything were to happen in this area, the Fall of 2014 would be the earliest date. The good news is that we have a very good infrastructure with the network."

"The University is used to having a lot of students hitting the network at the same time so if that were the only issue we could do it tomorrow. But it's more complicated than that."

"One of the things we would have to do would be to describe a set of necessary capabilities for the laptops, which we still

need to decide. I've had preliminary conversations with Mr. Jones and Financial aid also but I should emphasize that nothing's been decided yet."

The shared computer experience is inferior to a personalized one, says Mr. Lienick.

"A number of teachers find the shared nature constraining," Mr. Lienick said. "The fact that teachers need to put reservations in for the icarts ahead of time for instance. There are about 500 deliveries of the four icarts every quarter, mostly for the high school."

"Put that together with the other available computers, like those in the library, and that's an awful lot of shared computers. It's not the best computing experience for students. If I got a different computer everyday that I couldn't save on and that wasn't set up the way I would like, I don't think I could get anything done."

"There's a general sense is that the day is coming and may already be here when every student has a network capable device. We need to think about how to take advantage of that and give a Lab-Schools-quality experience. Many schools, both independent and public have gone one-to-one and it worked well. It's a fully

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Art by Lydia Fama

Mystique of Ivy League continues to fascinate

By Duncan Weinstein
Editor-in-Chief

The epitome of prestige.

For many seniors, an Ivy League acceptance letter proves the culmination of four years' hard work. But according to a December 4 Chicago Tribune story, Illinois students overall are underrepresented in the Ivy League.

The Tribune story, however, didn't include private schools, which make up a huge source of both Ivy League applicants and students. Last year, 14 U-Highers enrolled in the Ivy League, 11.6 percent of the class. Among public schools, Northside College Prep on the North Side sent the greatest percentage of its 2012 class to the Ivies – 3.6 percent according to the Tribune. New Trier in Winnetka sent the most students, 24, to the Ivies last year, 2.4 percent of their graduating class.

According to College Counselors Patty Kovacs, colleges' geographic targets, and students' legacy and access to college counseling may cause Illinois to be underrepresented in the Ivy League.

"The numbers reflect plenty of things other than the quality of the school like legacy and ability to pay," Ms. Kovacs said. "I like to say admissions is like an iceberg.



You see the numbers above the surface, but what's below the surface either keeps the iceberg floating or sinks the titanic. It's something the three college counselors or the school can't control.

Additionally, the story focused exclusively on the Ivy League, leaving out other highly-selective colleges from across the nation. But focusing on Ivies doesn't present a complete picture of the college admissions landscape, believe Ms. Kovacs and College Counselors Melissa Warehall and Abigale Wagner.

"The Ivy League is an athletic conference," Ms. Kovacs said. "It's been imbued with a lot of other factors, but all it is is an athletic conference. There is a ton of diversity within the Ivy League in terms of size, location, academic environment and feel."

Despite the prestige, Ivy League acceptance numbers aren't a top priority for Ms. Kovacs and Ms. Warehall. "Honestly, how many students we get into Ivy League schools isn't something we as college counselors think about," Ms. Kovacs said. "We end up compiling that data for the report we give to the Lab Schools' Board every May, but we're not thinking about it as we go through the process."

"We're focused on the kids in front of us and their interests, values and beliefs. I think it's chasing a false golden ring. Prestige can be a part of students' interests, values and beliefs, but otherwise isn't that important." Some of the nations' most selective programs aren't

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Artsfest planners offer incentives for showing up

By Marissa Page
Associate editor

All U-Highers have to do is show up. To encourage students to attend their assigned Artsfest workshops this Thursday, February 21, chairmen Caroline Montag and Angira Shirahatti, seniors, have added a potential reward for students with perfect attendance. “As always, this year students are required to attend the workshops they’ve been assigned,” Caroline said. “However, we’ve implemented an ‘incentive method.’ If students have perfect attendance during the day, their names will be submitted into a raffle to win a gift card prize. If every member of an advisory has perfect attendance, the advisory will be eligible to win free food, like pizza or Harold’s Chicken.”

A U-High tradition for more than 50 years, Artsfest, originally named Arts Week, at one point extended for two weeks. The program began diminishing after sponsoring teachers were denied overtime pay for their work. Beginning with a 55-minute opening ceremony at 9 a.m. in Upper Kovler, students will attend five 45-minute long workshops and regular lunch during Artsfest. The day ends at 3:25 after a closing ceremony, also in Upper Kovler. First-come, first-serve workshop registration, which opened February 4 on Labnet, allowed students to register for five of approximately 60 workshops for Artsfest, among them spoken word and rap showcases, improvisational and theatre games, friendship bracelet making, and baking classes such as “Make and Take an Apple Pie.”

While student-based acts such as

Bhangra, Unaccompanied Minors and slam poetry team will comprise Artsfest’s closing ceremony, the opening ceremony will feature a secret performance, according to Caroline. “For the closing ceremony, student dance groups and slam poetry team will perform,” Caroline said. “The opening ceremony will feature a secret act. In the past, we’ve had improv troupes, dance groups, comedians and music groups perform, and they always come for the closing ceremony. This year we decided to try something new.”

Artsfest’s faculty adviser for the past nine years, physical education teacher Debbie Ribbens said her role in planning is to help the committee with payments and behind-the-scenes work. “In the end, Artsfest is totally organized and run by kids,” Ms. Ribbens explained. “I help organize, do the paper work for payments and facilitate behind-the-scenes work, but the rest is done by the students. I really feel like this day epitomizes the John Dewey concept of ‘learning by doing,’ and especially this year the students in charge have really latched on to that concept.” Continuing an annual tradition, Junior Katie Harris will lead Stylin’ Spatulas, a workshop in which participants make clothes out of kitchen supplies. “The ‘Stylin’ Spatulas’ workshop was



Photo by Aurielle Akerele
Preparing for their 3rd period Artsfest workshop “Flower Crowns,” Meryl Charleston and Lindsey Aronson put finishing touches on a yellow, orange and white creation.

created several years ago and fizzled out once the creators graduated,” Katie said. “Last year, Shannon Vavra and I resurrected it, and this year I’m leading it again with Liv Rhodes. The concept is that you take kitchen supplies from the dollar store, then, in small groups, try to make an outfit out of those supplies. At the end of the session, the groups’ outfits are judged for creativity, assembly and sturdiness. When there’s leftover time, we introduce challenges, like incorporating 60 extra forks into an outfit.” Other workshops are as follows: **Paper Crafts; Makin’ Tea Homie G; Computer Junk Mural; Mural; Parfait Making; Balloon Animals; Cupcake Decorating!; Revolution Grrl Power Now: The Art of Zine Button Making; German Dodgeball; Quiet Study; Human Duct Tape Wrapping; Nail Painting and Sock Buns; Bad Music Gone**

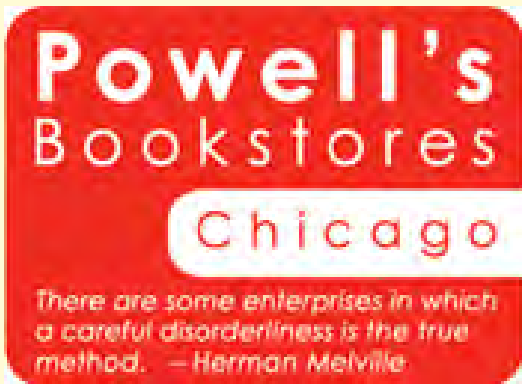
Good; Some Music with Aurielle with Akili; Board Games; Face Painting and Finger Painting; Art and Your Brain; Art is Where You Find It; Warrior Factory; Duct Tape Art; Breakfast with Amelia, Natalie and Amol; Cake Pops and Tea Time; Hands With Swag!; Fort Wars; Introduction to Botanical Illustration; Egg Rolls!; Collage Making; Temporary Tattoos; The Real Lord of the Rings: Cassini Mission to Saturn; Frosting Fest; Heads and Tails; Unaccompanied Minors; Improv Games; Bhangra!; Acting Studio; Flower Crowns; Ukrainian Easter Eggs; Drama Presentation; Festive Photoshoot; Tie-Dye; Ice Skating on the Midway; Dart Art; Food Architecture with JSA; Fortune Cookie Making with the Greens; Slam Workshop and Open Mic with the Poetry Team; Gotta Get a Beat; Make and Take an Apple Pie; Sushi Making;

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Photo by Jason Deng
Picking out a copy of “Worlds at War” by Anthony Pagden, Jordy Breslau enjoys browsing Powell’s bookshelves.



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Speakers to address drug, tech addictions

By Elena Carroll-Maesriperi
Midway reporter

Love can be a drug, but it’s not the kind of drug that U-Highers were scheduled to learn about during the all-school assembly lecture Thursday, Valentine’s Day.

Covering drug and alcohol awareness, clinical psychologist, Dr. John Mayer will focus on how students and parents can deal with the so-called war on drugs and how to help prevent drug use during an assembly in May, after postponing his visit planned for Valentine’s Day.



Dr. Rosen

Dr. Mayer previously spoke February 4 in a program sponsored by the Parents’ Association. He holds a degree from Northwestern University Medical School, and has written more than 60 professional articles on the topic of drug awareness.

“I don’t give the usual scare tactic lecture, pointing a finger at young people,” Dr. Mayer said in an e-mail interview.

“Instead I like to discuss the bigger picture of drugs. My presentation may be from a more moral perspective, i.e. what are we doing as a society because of the drug problem? Is this how we want to live with violence in our streets?”

Dr. Mayer said he will use “Shadow Warrior,” his novel that will soon be filmed, in his presentation as well.

Another assembly speaker and a

professor of psychology, Dr. Larry Rosen, said he will speak about the psychology of technology and why it is so easy to get distracted by today’s technology during an assembly 10:10 a.m., Thursday, March 14.

He also will be speaking to parents 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 13 on Judd 126. Dr. Rosen has written five books and writes a technology column for “The National Psychologist.”

“Right now my main interest is on how our brains deal with focus and attention and why students and adults are so distracted by that little device that we carry in our pockets and purses,” Dr. Rosen said.

“We feel it vibrate only to find that it didn’t vibrate at all. We can’t go for even 15 minutes without checking in with our social world and it is not just teenagers but adults, too.”

Dr. Rosen also said that he will cover a short history of the subjects that he has studied.

“All the topics fall under the umbrella of the psychology of technology. This includes things like generational differences, online dating, and studying behavior,” he explained.

“I hope that students will learn something about what our brain does to distract us all the time, and also to give you some strategies to avoid distraction and still get to check in with your technology.”



Dr. Mayer



In "Post its (notes on marriage)," among six SET one-acts. Maria Privitera plays an unnamed character who reads off a post-it note chronicling her rough relationship with her husband.



Forced to clap indefinitely by an oppressive regime, characters Z and Y, played by Will Leiter and Alex Soto, desperately attempt to outlast each other lest they be executed in "The Weed Dreams."



Photo by Daisee Toledo

A discheveled Kylee, played by Carly Plys Garzotto, tries to figure out the events of last night after waking up in the back of a Starbucks in "For the Glory of Satan."

SET offers six one acts, sound-light show

By Natalie Holley
Associate editor

Desperate for a night of partying, three best friends summon a demon in hopes of getting alcohol. "For the Glory of Satan," a comedic play written by junior Loren Sosnick, is among two student-written pieces in this year's Student Experimental Theatre production, 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday, February 21-23. The production will offer six one-act plays and a Sound and Lights Show designed by the theatre tech crew. Tickets, \$10, are available for purchase in the high school lobby.

Initially, Loren and junior Nell Mittlestead, who left to work on "All That Remains," SET's other student-written piece, were writing "For the Glory of Satan."

"Eventually we decided that we would get more work done if we split up," Loren said. "Nell worked on her own one-act and I got to finish this. The play is about three friends who summon a demon, but beyond that it's really about what happens when friends are put in a stressful situation."

"At the beginning all I had were a few random

snippets of conversations from certain scenes. Most of those came from writing with Nell. So then I had to go back and connect all of these moments, add details and other things to really fill out the story. One day I just sat down and wrote. I spent all day working on it. When I finished I sent everything to Nell and Jiji Plecha, our crew director. They both liked it and gave me the confidence to consider submitting it to the SET Board."

Inspiration for her one-act drama came to Nell during a 13-hour road trip.

"I was in the car going to my brother's college graduation and was really bored so I began writing," she said. "The idea came out of nowhere; I was just trying to find a subject. I ended up writing four to five pages in that day alone."

After getting her play selected by the SET Board, Nell found casting to be the most difficult part of the process.

"Casting was terrifying," Nell said. "You have to pay close attention to everyone auditioning and think about how their actions and abilities could add to your play. I was so nervous the entire time."

Plays credits are as follows:

"ARABIAN NIGHTS"—Shenanigans ensue as an interpreter tries to get two customers at a floral shop to go on a romantic date. **Cast:** Charlotte Effenbaum, Aleeze Qadir, Ross Tizes. Understudy: Nadja Barlera. **Written by** David Ives.

"POST-ITS (NOTES ON MARRIAGE)"—Post-it notes written by a man and a woman during the course of their relationship are read and performed. **Cast:** Anthony Christian, Maria Privitera. Understudy: Valentina Gardner. **Written by** Paul Dooley and Winnie Holzman.

"FOR THE GLORY OF SATAN"—A girl gets dragged into a demon summoning by her two best friends. **Cast:** Carly Plys Garzotto, Lauren Onel, Clea Baendel, Rosie Ellis. Understudy: Maya Ben-Shahar. **Written by** Loren Sosnick.

"THE WEED DREAMS"—Three people are trapped in an oppressive system. **Cast:** Alex Soto, Jackie Cabrera, Will Leiter. Understudy: Isabel Mitchell. **Written by** Eric Kaiser.

"THE DMV ONE"—A casual trip to the DMV leads to a racy encounter. **Cast:** Nell Mittlestead, Rex Gu, Valentina Garner. Understudy: Nadja Barlera. **Written by** Nick Zagone.

"ALL THAT REMAINS"—A former couple says their final goodbye before one of them moves to London with a new flame. **Cast:** Adam Kelsick, Zoe Briskey. Understudy: Ginny Differding. **Written by** Nell Mittlestead.

Debaters triumph at tourney

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-in-Chief

Two varsity debate pairs won quarters, and freshman Reed Rosenbacher placed first speaker among novices at the Westlake Warrior Invitational Tournament January 11-13 in Omaha, Nebraska.

Senior Mia Epner, captain, and sophomore Adam Fine won 5-1 in the preliminaries continuing to the quarter debates, which juniors James Duran and Sam Leiter also competed in after winning preliminaries 4-2. Mia and Adam won their quarters debate 2-1. Novices Robert Bacon and Reed Rosenbacher, freshmen, made it to finals.

Earning her first bid to the Kentucky Tournament of Champions April 27-29 during the Westlake Invitational, junior Alice Yu and her partner, sophomore Luke Newell, won their quarters debates.

"This tournament we ruthlessly scouted every team and made sure we had a strategy against each and I really think that helped," Alice explained. "This was, obviously, very important in being able to anticipate mentally. There is a limited amount of time between rounds, so if we have our game-plan ready, it allows us to concentrate on other things before round like judge adaptation instead."

Debaters are now at Cal Invitational Tournament at the University of California at Berkeley, February 18-20.

"It's a big tournament that draws over 50 schools," Mia explained. "There will also be some more novice competitions coming up. Novice and jv state and national tournaments are in March. It's not set in stone who will go yet, but we will definitely have teams at all of those. I think this quarter is showing how focused we are coming to the end of the year. People have more time with not as many tournaments in a row. They could use this time to slack off but they haven't been."

Board committee seeks update

By Marissa Page
Associate editor

The Lab Schools Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee, comprised of Board members who also are or have been Lab Schools parents, is scheduling meetings with department heads to better understand their challenges and learn about their programs.

Dedicated to informing the entire Lab Schools Board of students' and teachers' daily life at school, the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, assembled by Associate Director of Educational Programs Jason Lopez, was formed four years ago when the Board divided into five smaller subsections. Instead of meeting monthly and discussing everything from finance to personnel, the Board's smaller committees instead focus on one aspect of Lab Schools business at a time.

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee, began planning to meet with department heads about a year ago, and have bumped the meetings up in light of Director David Magill's announcement that he will retire the end of next year, Mr. Lopez said.

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Delicious Dining, Dehli Style



Photo by Nathaniel Green

ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER in the cozy setting of Rajun Cajun, juniors Christian Morris and Gaby Rosenbacher try to decide which of the numerous tempting menu offerings they will try.



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Ivy league focus

(continued from front page)

Ivy League schools but music conservatories, Ms. Kovacs pointed out.

“I get just as excited by a student getting into Annapolis or a music conservatory. I remember one year we got two kids into the Curtis Institute of Music. Two!

“I think we need to re-examine what’s behind those values. Why is someone getting into an Ivy League school more exciting than a student getting into the college of their dreams, or one of the service academies, or a music conservatory, or a liberal arts college no one has ever heard of but where they feel perfectly at home?”

Much of the Ivy League’s prestige results from its selectivity, which has increased in recent years due to increased applications. Lower admissions rates help colleges in U.S. News and World Report rankings, which in turn help boost prestige and applications.

“It’s a vicious cycle and you wonder what came first,” Ms. Warehall said. “Did schools rise in the rankings because they were highly selective, or did schools become highly selective because they rose in the rankings?”

“And, of course, class sizes have remained relatively stable since the mid-70s, but applications have been going up. From my first year, 1986 through about 1990 I would see about a 2 to 5 percent increase a year. Then in the ‘90s I began to see double digit increases.”

The Ivy League’s prestige factored into some of Senior Yaning Zhang’s application decisions, she said.

“Going to a school with a higher ranking really doesn’t guarantee that you’ll be getting a better education, but prestige still has weight. That’s also not a guarantee you’ll be successful, but people are definitely impressed by big names. It still is about how much you’re willing to work in the end.”

Although she focused on schools with personality Senior Stefania Gomez sees some value in prestige.

“I think the most important part of ‘prestige’ in colleges is that it usually comes with crazy endowments and therefore chance for financial aid, and also really esteemed faculty and alumni, which open doors for a lot of other opportunities,” Stefania said.

“Incorporating prestige in college decisions only makes sense in those two capacities, in my opinion. That said, I think it’s silly that a select few schools have the largest endowments and fanciest faculty, because it means that kids will want to go there whether or not the school is a good fit for them.”

Briefly Science Search finalist headed for Capital

On his way to Washington, D.C. March 7-13, senior Lane Gunderman is among 40 national finalists in the 2013 Intel Science Talent Search.

In Washington, the finalists’ projects will be judged and display, they will meet prominent scientists, and compete for \$630,000 in awards, including the top prize of \$100,000.

Lane and senior Danny Zhang earlier had been named semifinalists in the annual program. They were among two semifinalists from Chicago, five from Illinois, and 300 nationally.

Originally the Westinghouse Science Talent Search, passed on to Intel 1998, the program is the largest science research competition for high school seniors and judged by nationally-recognized professional scientists.

Lane’s project is titled “Investigating the Fenna-Matthews-Olson Complex Using Molecular Dynamics Simulations: Exploring the Mechanics of Energy Transport in Photosynthesis.”

Danny’s topic was “LIN28 Represses miR-150 Maturation in MLL-Associated Leukemia.”

Lane was featured in a Chicago Tribune story Friday, January 15 headlined “From homeless shelter to elite science fair.” Six years ago, Lane’s family lived for a year in homeless shelters on the North Side. He came to the Lab Schools on Malone Foundation scholarship and last summer participated in the Summer Link Science Research Program, working with Greg Engel, U. of C. associate professor of chemistry, and his Intel project started in Professor Engel’s lab.

The Midway will be doing a followup story on Lane next issue.

■ **MUSICIAN HONORED**—Viola player Yaning Zhang, senior, was selected to perform at the Illinois Music Education Association All-State Festival January 24-26 in Peoria from among hundreds of candidates.

■ **WYSE TEAM WINS (AGAIN)**—Thirteen World Youth in Science and Engineering participants traveled February 12 to Fenwick Academy in Oak Park for the first of three competitions, taking 1st place. Each will take two tests in subjects including biology, chemistry, computer science, English, physics, math, and engineering graphics.

This is the 16th year U-High has competed. Last year’s team won the school’s 15th consecutive state championship, even though U-High was moved to a division of schools with larger enrollment.

Results were as follows:

Yaning Zhang (captain), 1st in Chemistry, 2nd in Biology; **Hajeera Aftreen**, 3rd, Math; **Rajan**

Aggarawal, 3rd, Engineering Graphics; **Jai Dhamoa**, 3rd, Biology; Adam Fine, 2nd, Computer Science, 3rd, Math; **Lane Gunderman**, 2nd, Chemistry, 2nd, Physics; **Eliot Levmore**, 1st, Computer Science, 1st, Math; **Rahul Meehta**, 1st, Computer Science, 2nd, Physics; **Walker Melton**, 3rd, Computer Science; **Mohammed Munim**, 2nd, Physics, 3rd, Math; **David Yunis**, 1st, Engineering Graphics; **Emily Zhao**, 2nd, Engineering Graphics, 1st, English.

■ **SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS**—Eleven U-High seniors have reached Finalist standing in the National Merit Scholarship program, three have reached Finalist standing in the National Achievement Scholarship program, and three have achieved awards in the National Hispanic Recognition program.

One senior, Meryl Charleston, is a finalist in both the Merit and Achievement programs, which are sponsored by the National Merit Corporation. The Hispanic program is sponsored by the College Board and the award confers honor but not a financial reward.

All three programs are based on standardized test scores but the Merit and Achievement competitions add in school recommendations, school and community contributions and other factors.

Scholarship winners will be announced beginning in April. In the Merit program, more than half the Finalists win scholarships. In the Achievement program, of 1,600 semifinalists about 1,300 advanced to Finalist standing. About 700 of them will get \$2,500 one-time scholarships and 100 more will get business-sponsored grants.

The U-High finalists and Hispanic winners are as follows:

MERIT—Emily Altkorn, Helen Cain, Meryl Charleston, Jason Deng, Nora Engel-Hall, Ben Meyer, Caroline Montag, Siobhan O’Muircheartaigh, Hannah Resnick, Hanna Thomio and Yaning Zhang.

ACHIEVEMENT—Catherine Adams, Meryl Charleston.

HISPANIC—Charlotte Green, Patricia Perozo, Mia Epner.

■ **HOT STUFF**—U-High’s new history magazine featuring student research and writing is spotlighted by history teacher Paul Horton in an article in the internet publication “Education News.”

The magazine, “Inflame,” is scheduled to debut soon; a feature story on it is scheduled for the next issue of the Midway.

“We have set it up as a blind, peer-reviewed

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Photo by Sarah Husain, Class of 2012

More than 700 guests attended Connections 2012 in Navy Pier’s spectacular Grand Ballroom.

‘Connections’ gala still going green

By Raghu Somala
Midway reporter

Bookmarks, leaves and flower pots created from seed paper and sold throughout the Lower, Middle and High Schools replaced the usual raffle as a fundraiser this year for “Connections,” the annual Parents’ Association gala benefit, in line with the theme, “Green Spaces and Places.”

The theme is a carryover from last year’s event, which drew a crowd of more than 700 and raised more than \$400,000, including \$1,600 for a portrait by juniors Alexander Radway and Alexis Acosta of Steve Jobs, the late co-founder and CEO of the Apple empire.

Those funds will be combined with this year’s funds to benefit green projects.

This year’s festive benefit will take place, as before, in the majestic, window-lined Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier, 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, March 9

Tickets, \$200 each, are available at ucls.uchicago.edu/connections.

“Starting with cocktails, this event will prove an enjoyable night with a gourmet dinner, Dance Troupe and Jazz Band performances, a silent auction, and dancing,” Cynthia Heusing predicted, co-chairperson of the Parents’ Association Connec-

tions committee with Cheryl Rudbeck and Judy Magill.

Following the Dance Troupe and Jazz Band performances, which have proven crowd-pleasers in previous years and are still in the planning stage for this year, a silent auction will take place with electronic bidding devices, adding to the fun.

“The silent auction will include many unique items donated by Lab parents and alumni,” Mrs. Rudbeck explained. “We have a hockey stick signed by the Chicago Blackhawks, autographed baseballs, a one-night stay at a Lab family’s home in St. Barths, jewelry and children’s classes.

“There are over 450 items in our collection and we are still receiving even more unique than what we have already.”

The Connections committee hopes to come close to what last year’s event earned to complete its two-year campaign.

“Twenty-five percent of our funds goes toward financial aid and the rest goes to refurbishing and renewing outdoor places,” Ms. Heusing said. “Seventy-five percent of both year’s funds will be combined to build an outdoor classroom at the main campus and a west playground at the new Early Childhood Center.”

Board committee

(continued from page 3)

“We’ll have each chair come in for 45 minutes to an hour to talk about their respective departments,” Mr. Lopez said. “Principal Scott Fech and other administrators might be present at meetings solely to provide context for committee members.

“When department heads come in and begin to speak about specific departmental items, Mr. Fech will be able to contribute school-wide context so that Board members will be better able to understand.”

According to Mr. Lopez, these meetings were devised to lessen the divide between faculty and administration and ensure that the two parties

“These meetings promote a better understanding for the board of our departments, faculty and daily life at

Lab,” Mr. Lopez said.

“Department chairs are on the ground. They see daily challenges and can identify them immediately. The board, however, has a bird’s-eye view. We look at big picture things like the new mission statement and the move to the new Early Childhood campus.

“Our goal with these meetings it to bridge the gap that can develop between teachers, administrators and board members during times like these.

“We want to make sure that the people on the ground and the people in the air are on the same page.”

Committee members are as follows:

Emily Buss (chairman), **Hannah Goldschmidt (former U-High principal and math teacher)**, **Andrew Neal (Class of 1978)**, **Susan Levine**, **Michael Markovitz**, **David Song**, **Peggy Lim**.

Yearbook gets top State honor

Moved to a new enrollment category placing it in competition with yearbooks from schools with greater enrollment, the 2012 U-Highlights still took 1st place for overall excellence in the Illinois Journalism Education Association’s annual contest.

Previously competing in the small schools category of 499 enrollment or under, the U-High yearbook was moved to a new category of schools with enrollment of 490-950. U-High’s enrollment, 496 for several years, rose to 501 last year.

Auditions coming for Music Recital in March

Students interested in performing in the Music Recital 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10 at Fulton Recital Hall in the Goodspeed Building can contact music teachers Brad Brickner and Katy Sinclair for information.

U-Highlights placed 1st in copywriting, sports coverage, layout and design, photography and graphics. It placed 2nd in coverage of the school year and didn’t place at all in theme and divider pages.

The theme, “Building Blocks,” covered the school’s effort to make a problematic new daily schedule work effectively, presented in an-depth report.

The yearbook’s editors were Elizabeth McNally, Lucy Cheng, Adam Picker and Jessica Cohen. The photography editor was Sarah Husain.

Both U-Highers and 7th and 8th graders are welcome to audition classical repertory for voice, piano and wind instruments.

The public is invited to the Recital.

Busy 2012 leads into busy 2013



Photo by Lili Steffen

A leather purse caught Catherine Zhou’s eye in historic downtown Galena, Illinois, on the first day of Senior Getaway January 26-28 at Eagle Ridge Resort. She went on to examine the purse in the leather store with Meryl Charleston and Rolland Long who bought coffee from Chocolat, which also sold candy and ghost tours. With no snow, seniors

were unable to go sledding so many chose ice skating. Saturday, approximately 35 seniors skied or snowboarded at Chestnut Mountain, a snow-making resort overlooking the Mississippi River, before leaving early because of icy conditions. In a close match, seniors lost the annual Saturday night student vs. faculty trivia contest



Photo by Catherine Zhou

Colorful, terra cotta clay heads laid in display from Mirentxu Ganzarain’s Intro to Sculpture class for the Lab Arts Expo January 27-28. Sponsored by the Parents’ Association the Expo also offered student poetry and dramatic performances and musical presentations..



Photo by Lili Steffen

Popcorn, marshmallows, hot chocolate and luscious pastries lined the cafeteria tables for a freshman-sophomore party before Winter Break during Wednesday advisory December 19. “The party was a great help because it provided a period of relaxation before our first taste of high school finals, which was nice,” Daniel Zhu, right, said, grabbing goodies from Dunkin’ Donuts with Ishaan Dayal.



Photo by Jason Deng

Spitting verses, Emily Hsee, left, Nora Engel-Hall and Gloria Zingales, members of the Poetry Slam Team, performed a poem in Upper Kovler during a Student Council assembly December 20. “I think we were inspired by adults making comments regarding beauty at inappropriate moments,” Gloria said. “Like referring to it in a school setting or referring to beauty as an accomplishment, as if something we couldn’t control was more important than those things we could control like our artistic or academic accomplishments. And it was just entirely related to the objectification of girls by not just men but society as a whole. As if girls were only worth their appearance. ”

Oh me oh my A bookstore...nearby?



Photo by Lili Steffen

Diligently scanning for a certain bespectacled friend with a red and white striped shirt, Kyle Chow and William Chung get lost in the wonderful world of “Where’s Waldo?”

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Independent study group focuses on women in history

By Julian Lark
Midway reporter

Munching on salad and slices of Giordano's pizza, members of "Herstory," an independent study project taught by History Teacher Cindy Jurisson, prepare for their 7 p.m. class in the dining room of Eliot Levmore's South Shore Drive apartment on a cold and gray Thursday, January 17. Studying topics ranging from the Ancient Egyptian pharaoh Hatshepsut to the catch-all early 20th century women's diagnosis of "hysteria," the U-Highers explore texts by and about women from a expansively wide range of time periods

BESIDE ELIOT, the participants include seniors Stefania Gomez, Katie Ragsdale and Caroline Montag, and juniors Leah Barber and Stacy Stern.

The idea for Herstory originated in the Young Feminists' Society, a club started last year by Leah and Stefania.

"We were upset by the lack of emphasis on women's history and gender studies in the Lab curriculum," Leah said, "so we decided to act and create a class for ourselves. As far as women's history and gender studies at Lab are concerned, there are no specific classes devoted to either of those subjects in the curriculum."

"**I MEAN**, there are definitely times in history class where we learn about women, but Stefania and I and others in our independent study wanted a more specific look at women and gender issues throughout history. That's why Stefania and I met last year in Spring Quarter with Ms. Jurisson to talk over some potential course options, and we decided that the best way to examine modern gender roles is to go back in time and find their sources."

Leah, Stefania, and Ms. Jurisson said they realized that creating a course would prove too difficult because of the necessary administrative procedures, Ms. Jurisson explained, so they formed an independent study group instead.

"I think a number of the people involved were members of the Young Feminists' Club, and they all got excited about this idea, and the word spread, and that makes me think that there is need for this kind of class where girls can discuss issues they face," Ms. Jurisson said.

"**WE ONLY** have planned on going through the Second Quarter, but if people are interested, I would love to teach another quarter, or another year of Herstory."

Ms. Jurisson added that she has already seen how such a project can result in a wide range of learning experiences.

"Students are allowed to do projects of their choosing, so some will be writing papers and long-form essays, others are interested in doing presentations for other classes, and some are interested in compiling research data and using it for advocacy work," she explained. "As with any independent study, the final project format is always up to the student in consultation with the instructor."

MS. JURISSON, who taught graduate-level women's studies for 15 years, uses many of the same pieces of writing in Herstory as she has in her class



In the Middle School Computer Lab members of the independent study group "Herstory" met for a lively discussion on the role of women in 19th century North

America. Clockwise from left, are Eliot Levmore, Caroline Montag, Stefania Gomez and Leah Barber. Also in the group are Katie Ragsdale and Stacy Stern.

Photo by Carolyn Voth

lectures, she said, although connecting what class members read with their modern experiences often results in a markedly wide variety of topics.

"The main thought behind the choice of reading material was trying to get rid of that naïveté we encounter about how we claim that our age is the most enlightened when it comes to women's role in society," Ms. Jurisson said. "It was interesting to see the group discuss 'Twilight,' for instance, and discover that the author wrote with a very particular viewpoint about women's roles, and women's sexuality in American society."

"After having read a number of ancient texts by and about women, the students were able to see the propagandistic function of the novel and realize that they were not necessarily in agreement with the author's opinions and values."

"**BUT THEY WERE** also able to understand why the book was so wildly

popular among teenage girls. 'Twilight' was more than just a page-turner or romance novel for teenage girls; it was a lesson in how the author thought teenage girls, and teenage boys, should properly fulfill their gender roles and properly express their sexuality."

"That's one of the things that has been so great about this class, being able to help students gain some objectivity on laws, values, beliefs, and traditions from our age, by comparing them with related issues and things from the past."

REGARDING WOMEN, the manner in which history has been recorded is almost as interesting as history itself, Stefania believes.

"Probably what's most memorable for me is the historiography part of Herstory, which is studying how the history has actually been recorded," Stefania said. "Just realizing that, like, not only

(continues on page 16)

'Visible Change' works to bring refugee family to live in Chicago

By Christine Obert-Hong
Midway reporter

Visible Change, formerly known as Invisible Children, has yet to find out where the refugee family the club is helping to support is coming from, and when.

The 15 to 20 members of Visible Change are dedicated to helping refugee families settle into their new homes in Chicago. The club works with RefugeeOne, a not-for-profit organization.

The organization is under contract to resettle refugees sent to Chicago, and due to that contract, refugees can't be housed more than 50 miles away from their offices.

RefugeeOne resettles about 500 refugees a year, but has resettled at least tens of thousands of refugees in the Chicago area. Currently, the most refugees are coming from Iraq, Burma, Bhutan, and various other African countries including Somalia, the Congo, Sudan, and Ethiopia.

According to the organization's website, RefugeeOne has special volunteers that will be able to speak the refugee's language, and will teach the family English.

Visible Change so far, has raised about \$2,500, said senior Catherine Zhou, co-president with senior Hannah Tomio.

"The money we have raised so far will help them, you know, provide financial aid for the first few months," Catherine said.

"So, pocket money, grocery money, helping them pay for gas, or even public transportation tickets. You know, money they would use on a regular daily basis.

Other money for furniture, for clothes that they might want to buy. The goal amount for funding is around \$8,000.

"By the time the family has entered the United States," Hannah said, "we will set up the apartment completely, and transport them to their new home, provide groceries, food allowance and assistance with shopping for the first few weeks, visit refugees approximately once a week, during the first 90 days. All the while we'll be working with volunteers and RefugeeOne staff to complete these tasks."

Over the course of the school year, Visible Change has been collecting house-hold items for the family.

"RefugeeOne will set up an apartment for the family, and we will be given an address, in which we will furnish the apartment with things we have collected," Catherine said. "So, we're not the actual ones who find the apartment, RefugeeOne is, and they help purchase the apartment. We don't know when the family will be arriving, or where they will be coming from yet."



Photo by Catherine Zhou

Members of Visible Change and intrigued U-Highers during lunch period Friday, January 18, heard from Erin Daubert, left, a representative from Refugee One and spoke with Alemayehu Mekonen, an Ethiopian refugee, center, with the help of his translator, Eden Isaac.



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Boston adventure

Model U.N. meet offers a rush of memorable experiences

By Duncan Weinstein
Editor-in-Chief

"Duncan, we've been asked to take you down to delegate services. Do you know what this is about," Model U.N. faculty sponsors Fran Spaltro and Lesley Scott asked me worriedly as I left my committee room in the Sheraton Back Bay in Boston on a snowy Saturday February 2. "I have no idea, but we'll find out," I responded, believing I could talk myself out of any trouble.

But instead, my parents, who had flown in from Chicago, were waiting for me, ready to take me out to an 18th birthday dinner. Two hours and lobster mac and cheese later, I carefully laid out my suit before getting in bed, trying to catch some sleep for my midnight crisis.

Escorted by a pale crisis staffer with long, frizzy hair at around 1:30 a.m., I returned to my committee room, where, nourished by pizza provided by the conference, my 19-member committee debated until 6 a.m. Set in the final years of Japan's Tokugawa Shogunate, we were threatened by American gunboats demanding trade rights, a Chinese invasion, and a rebellion by half the committee. The army contracted syphilis en masse, the Emperor lead the rebellion, and one delegate engaged in extensive correspondence with his American second family.

Representing the UK or Belgium, 32 U-Highers discussed tamer topics, such as providing medication to HIV patients and protecting civilians in modern warfare. On the approximately 400-person Special, Political and Decolonization committee junior Katie Harris and senior Amartya Das merged resolutions with the United States en route to a gavel, the best delegate's trophy.

While providing for more education for girls, freshmen Schuler Small and sophomore Jax Ingrassia collaborated on a resolution with Austria, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, all represented by delegates from Central America. Jax and Schuler earned a 2nd, one of many awards leading to an Outstanding Large Delegation, equivalent to second place, for the team.

After fighting through dense crowds, we entered the massive, chandelier-lit our ballroom, taking our seats for the awards ceremony. As the winners of third and second on my committee were announced, my excitement grew.

"Best Delegate goes to Takashima Shuhan, represented by the University of Chicago Lab School," they announced. Receiving pats on the back as I walked down the row—in my third year of trying—I finally went up to get my Harvard gavel.



Duncan



Photo by Carolyn Voth



Photo by Jason Deng



Photo by Carolyn Voth

Tribute to a King

Historic civil rights leader Judy Richardson (lower right photo), recounting what she had witnessed first-hand, totally held the attention of a large audience in Rockefeller Chapel January 17 at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. memorial assembly sponsored by the Black Students' Association.

Students gave readings, offered and represented the school's range of cultural organizations. Jacquelyn Ingrassia (lower left photo) read her poem "about the injustice of the death penalty, which went along with the prompt to write about something you're passionate about. Although it was scary, it was a great experience."

The program climaxed with the Concert Choir and Jazz Band (top photo) joining for Andre Couch's "Soon and Very Soon."

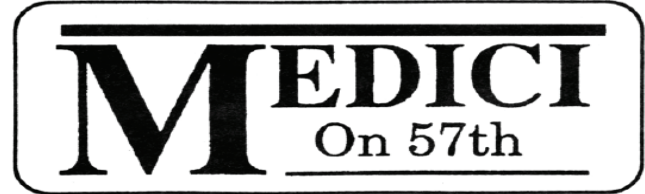
Fight the bitter cold with yummy delights!



Photo by Fiona Potter

Escaping winters chill, Isabelle Mitchell and Angela Zhang head over to Medici during their long free period for a Pasta

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Alumni embark on venture linking Chicagoans, culture

By Hebah Masood
Associate editor

On a particularly windy Thursday last month, Walker Thisted, Class of 2002, in a sharp brown suede jacket and thick-rimmed glasses, let his classmate Nikolas Lund into his 3rd floor studio apartment in Near West Side Chicago.

The apartment serves not only as his home but the office of SENSE Culture, their new company until they launch their website this summer and qualify to receive proper funding.

DESIGNING A WEBSITE and eventually an app, Mr. Thisted and Mr. Lund created their idea for a database to help Chicagoans find lesser known events and share their experiences with others an official project in October 2012.

After graduating from U-High, Mr. Thisted got an architecture degree from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, and pursued an architecture career in a New York City firm. Meanwhile, Mr. Lund studied at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, for triple degrees in French German and Philosophy.

When Mr. Thisted returned for a Masters in Fine Arts at the School of the Art Institute the two were reunited in Chicago.

IN THE APARTMENT, Mr. Lund, broad shouldered and blond, and Mr. Thisted, were joined 10 minutes later by their classmate and web designer Beckett Sterner, who received a math degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. On funky sofa chairs under a small chandelier in the spacious living room they discussed the company's newest goals.

"Our goal is very broad," Mr. Thisted said to a visitor, running his hands

through his wavy brown hair.

"We want to provide artists with marketing tools. We want the sort of ecology where the artist and the patron can live together and nurture each other.

"Eventually we want to help Chicago be more innovative. We've been trying to think of different ways to do that. We want people to have good experiences that aren't online. We would really much rather have people use the site to show how you've interacted with the world at these events.

"A LOT of communities don't really talk to each other but value and support the same things, so we want to connect them.

"We want you to be able to find an event on the site, then go, then come back and write about it as a sort of reflection. This supports consumers to have a unified way to find out about cooler, underground things, and helps artists by providing one website for consumers.

"We're experimenting right now by bringing our own videographers and photographers to events to see what people did, how people reacted with the camera there, so that if an organization wants a live movie shot at their event, we can provide that. We're also going to different 'underground' events to get a feel for the crowd."

WITH ALL THREE of their parents working at the University, the friends



Photo by Nathaniel Green

In his Near West Side apartment, Walker Thisted, right, and Nikolas Lund, center, founders of the new venture SENSE Cul-

ture, discuss strategies with their technical consultant, Beckett Sterner. All three are 2002 U-High graduates.

spent most of their lives together at school and in Hyde Park; they grew up within three blocks of each other.

Once they started collaborating and building ideas for what they thought SENSE Culture should be, they folded in different alums from their class that could help them, such as Mr. Sterner.

Planning to launch the site over the summer, Mr. Thisted and Mr. Lund are running the company on their own dime and a single angel investment while searching for more investors

"RIGHT NOW most of our financial support is from friends and family," Mr. Thisted said. "When we get to the point where we go public we'll need to find more people to support us financially. I mean, we're going to have offices and tech development and we need to be able to pay for that. We will also have a lot of angel investors.

"Nikolas and I also started another company called Naught Company that personal skills and take production to the next level. We'll use our credibility and skills to acquire clients and develop contacts and then that profit will help fund SENSE Culture."

While the site is a way for artists to advertise for their next exhibit or concert, Mr. Thisted and Mr. Lund utilize the site for their own benefit. Both are also artists. Mr. Thisted makes short films and Mr. Lund composes and produces music.

THE TWO OF THEM got to know each other for the first time at a party.

"Every Thursday night my friends and I would go to Clark's Diner and have 'the fun,' which was really just studying and drinking milk shakes," Mr. Thisted said. "I would also host parties.

"When my parents or my friend's parents were out of town we'd take advantage of the open house and throw really large, healthy gatherings. We hosted our 10-year reunion in my apartment and got all 75 students to come. I guess nothing has changed."

BECAUSE THEY all come from different professional backgrounds they all bring different but useful knowledge to the table.

"Walker brings a lot of managing skills because of his architecture job," Mr. Lund said. "I've been doing a lot of events specifics the last few months. I look at what's going to happen if we have an event. I also just started to learn about marketing.

"Walker is doing more of the arts side; I'm doing business. We always try to look at what we offer that no one else does. Beckett is really sensitive to art and has really helped us think of what we wanted. As Walker said, 'he helped

us conceptualize our ideas.' We're also looking for computer savy interns that we're excited to work with."

MR. THISTED POINTED OUT that Mr. Sterner really helped them make their idea stand out and made sure it had a personal.

"Say you pick a neighborhood," Mr. Sterner said. "You can go on a guided tour there but you didn't choose where you wanted to go on the tour because someone told you what to do or where to go. Now, if you picked your own path you will always have that memory because you picked a way for yourself.

"I'm the closest to being a computer science person. I'm trying hard to get what Walker and Nikolas want, and we're deciding how thing looks in terms of design especially if we make a phone app."

THE EXTRACURRICULAR activities the three of them did in high school highly resonates in their accomplishments now.

In high school Mr. Lund did a lot of musical work while Mr. Sterner was on the Math and Science teams as well as track and soccer. Mr. Thisted became president of Model U.N. his senior year, was an editor-in-chief of Renaissance magazine and ran cross country and track and field. He said that equipped him mentally for college.

"Honestly, looking back I don't remember any of the work I did," Mr. Thisted said. "I mean, I'm sure I did a lot. But I remember more hanging out at Medici or Clark's.

"I KNOW I DID a lot, especially with Model U.N. but that's all I remember. I know going into college I was able to talk to anybody about anything.

"That really helped me with speaking and talking to large groups. Cross country really helped me with endurance.

"At Cornell I was in a really rigorous program and they weeded out a lot of the students freshman year, which was like the cross country dynamic of having a lot of stamina, so I was used to it.

"I KNOW MY freshman year alone I had 30 or so all-nighters and that was pretty standard. It was the extra curricular at Lab that really prepared me for life rather than the academics."

Mr. Lund and Mr. Sterner only see themselves sending their kids to the Lab Schools if they can afford it. Mr. Thisted has a different outlook.

"As much as I see myself having an international career, I'm really attached to Hyde Park. I wouldn't want to have kids unless I feel they would be able to go to Lab."



One musician, multiple sounds

Acclaimed bass clarinetist and composer Michael Lowenstern, who grew up in Hyde Park, returned January 24 to enthrall and audience of High School and Middle School music students with both his music and the use of electronics to on the spot create his own background ensemble. Regarded as a classical musician, he has incorporated popular drum and bass beats into his music.

Mr. Lowenstern has taught at New York University and the Julliard School of Music and is currently teaching at the Manhattan School of Music. For six years he played bass clarinet with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. He is a prolific recording artist and has composed for dance and film. Mr. Lowenstern attended the Lab Schools from 1973 to 1984 but for his senior year of high school went to Interlochen Music Academy in Michigan.



Photo contributed by Jim Andrews

May Project to get graded Pass or Fail, amid other changes

By Moira Differding
Associate editor

For the first time in its 44 year history, May Project will be graded on a pass/fail system.

Besides pass/fail grading, teachers will be limited to supervising a maximum of three projects and students must put in at least 30 hours a week.

Founded in 1969, May Project allows seniors to test a vocation, complete an independent project or do community service instead of attending classes. Over the last 40 years however, additional rules including presentations to Lower, Middle and High School Students have changed May Project.



Ms. Spaltro

Latin Teacher Frances Spaltro, May Project Supervisor, believes the changes will only benefit May Project.

"The pass/fail was added to encourage seniors to follow through on their May Projects and not just have an extended summer. It's technically not a graduation requirement so you can graduate without it, but if you don't do your work, it will appear as a fail on your transcript and you're going to have to explain that to someone someday."

Having founded May Project with other class of 1969 U-Highers and some parents, Dr. Prentiss Taylor, 1969 Student Council president, said he isn't worried about changes to

May Project.

"A small fraction of students are always going to want to goof off," Dr. Taylor said. "Having it pass or fail will hopefully encourage those students not to waste this opportunity."

Already teaching at U-High when May Project began, Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler sees the changes as part of May Project going in a different direction through the years.

"May Project was started for two reasons," Mr. Brasler said. "Number one, as a way of giving seniors an opportunity to explore careers, community service or independent study instead of getting stuck in Senior Slump, and number two as a way for seniors to let go of the school, and the school to let go of them."

Mr. Brasler believes that the changes resulted from teachers worrying about students using May Project unproductively. "Some decades ago, the school brought in a psychologist from Northwestern University to talk to teachers about Senior Slump. He said that it was a teacher more than student problem, that it was normal for seniors in their last month to be turning from school to their lives beyond school."

"He said teachers needed to learn to let go, but the faculty clearly never bought into that idea and May Project slowly became increasingly more supervised through the years."

Teacher evaluations get new approach, praise

By Maia Claire Boussy
Midway reporter

Used for the second time this year as part of the new teacher evaluation process, a new evaluation approach has proven more understandable and specific, both teachers and administrators say.

Teachers in their first, second, third, and sixth years go through an evaluation process consisting of class visits and teacher evaluations and have teacher evaluation forms filled out twice a year, once at the end of the Fall Quarter and once at the end of the Winter Quarter. In their first, second, and third years, teachers are watched to see how they are adapting to the new school. Teachers are then re-evaluated in their sixth year as a follow-up.

Resulting from the 2009-2010 teacher contract negotiations, a new teacher evaluation form was designed in an attempt to create a clearer and more comprehensive evaluation. A committee of faculty and administrators created the new evaluation program over the 2010-2011 school year.

The new teachers are provided with both peer and administrative evalu-

ators that observe the new teachers' classes at least twice for the Fall and Winter quarters.

The peer evaluator is a teacher agreed upon by the department chairman and the new teacher, and the administrator is assigned by the principal to either himself, the assistant principal, or another administrator.

"The old evaluation form focused more on what goes on in class," said Jason Lopez, executive director of educational programs. "While the new system gives more of a full picture and shows more aspects of the teacher like how the teacher is interacting with colleagues, students, and the school environment."

Second-year History Teacher Charles Disantis, who has experienced both the old and the new forms, also believes the old form was too broad.

"The evaluation process is intense," Mr. Disantis said. "You feel as if you are constantly being observed, but that is good because this is a prestigious school, and the school owes the students and parents good teachers."

"I felt like I was constantly being observed and it was rigorous."

After long process, new mission statement arrives

By Rolland Long
Editor-in-Chief

"The Laboratory Schools are home to the youngest members of the University of Chicago's academic community. We ignite and nurture an enduring spirit of scholarship, curiosity, creativity, and confidence. We value learning experientially, exhibiting kindness, and honoring diversity."

So states the Lab Schools' new mission statement. Much deliberation went into those 38 words.

LAST AUGUST, Director David Magill sent a message identifying a need to replace the old statement, which was 12 years old. Since then, a committee consisting Lab parents, faculty, administrators, and alumni and junior Marissa Page has been working to replace the statement periodically. Faculty members met five to six times, while other members have met at least twice.

While the decision to create a new mission statement was born from an accreditation done by an independent school membership organization a few years ago, Mr. Magill believes the new statement's main purpose is to maintain the cohesion of Lab's five schools.

"When we went through our last school accreditation, we were told we might want to take a look at our mission statement because it was written 12 years ago and potentially may not reflect who we are or want to be," Mr. Magill said. "But that is a secondary reason for creating this new mission statement. The primary reason has to do with the Lab Schools' upcoming big change. Next year, nursery 3 to grade 2 will no longer be taught in the same building as the older students in grades 3 to 12. While this might not be

unusual for other schools, it is for us.

THE MISSION STATEMENT process was as valuable as the statement itself, Mr. Magill believes.

"The opportunity to just examine what's at your core has been invaluable," Mr. Magill said. "Many of us have taken the time to think and describe what we believe is at the core of this remarkable place."

"It's not a conversation that we normally have. By identifying what we share in common, we should be able to craft a mission statement and refine it even further with descriptions that are age appropriate for the five schools that are part of Lab."

WITH NANCY ARONSON, who owns a private consulting firm specializing in group workshops and seminars, Associate Director Jason Lopez led meetings and organized the mission statement process. According to Mr. Lopez, subgroups within the committee were organized according to opinion to minimize conflicting ideas.

"There's a big difference between the previous mission statement committee and ours. And I'm proud I influenced that," Mr. Lopez said. "When Nancy and I talked about going through this process, we realized group writing rarely produces good writing."

"In group writing, you have his idea, her idea, and putting them together can weaken the result through contradictions. Instead, we gathered opinions and assigned groups according to opinion. Eventually, we would cross out prototypes until there was only one left. That is why we are currently deciding between more than one version of the mission statement."

The only U-Higher involved in the

(continues on page 17)

Students can
build
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Connections 2013 needs
student organizations to
volunteer for Lab's annual fundraiser

For more information, please email Elizabeth Pesce
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For more information or to purchase tickets, email connections@ucls.uchicago.edu

MARCH 8, 2013
connections 2013
green spaces + places

Hello to new Lab Schools Arts Wing



Architects' rendering displayed in Judd Hall

The new Arts Wing, scheduled to be completed in September 2015, will stand where part of Belfield Hall currently does. Demolition of Belfield starts this August. Plans for the new facility include rehearsal rooms, administrative offices, scene and costume shops, a digital media and photography lab, four art studios, an art gallery, two theaters and an assembly hall. The Sherry Lansing Theater was funded by a \$5 million gift from former Paramount Pictures chairperson and CEO Sherry Lan-

sing, Class of 1962. During construction, displaced classrooms and other transitions will be managed by David Stafford, associate director of the Laboratory Schools. "We'll be fencing off the center of Belfield in order to keep the materials away from students," Mr. Stafford said. "Our main focus is the safety of the students and making sure that classes won't be disrupted, especially considering that there will still be classes going on in East Belfield and in the music tower."

Demolition of original Manual Training School to begin this summer to make way for new building

By Mia Luo
Midway reporter

A new glass-faced Arts Wing will be constructed where Belfield Hall currently stands after its partial demolition this August.

The building, between the east and west Belfield towers fronting on Kenwood Mall and Kimbar Avenue, is scheduled to be finished in September 2015. It will include peaked sides and a north-facing glass wall to let in natural light. The towers, redesigned inside, will also provide three floors containing rehearsal rooms, scene and costume shops, administrative offices, a digital media and photography lab, an art gallery, four art studios, two theaters, and an assembly hall.

Among the facilities is a new theater and film venue, the 250-seat Sherry Lansing Theater. The theater was financed by former Paramount Pictures chairperson and CEO Sherry Lansing, Class of 1962, with \$5 million dollar gift.

The new wing's primary funding is coming from parent and alumni donations through the \$55 million Lab-Plus Campaign, launched July 2007. The campaign will provide funds for the Arts Wing, Early Childhood Campus on Stony Island Avenue and campus renovations.

University administrators first proposed the Arts Wing in the early 1990s, according to David Stafford, associate director for the Lab-Plus program. The architectural firm Valerio Dewalt Train started work in November, 2009, in col-

laboration with FGM Architects to craft the complex's design.

Besides its functional aspects, the building's modern design is meant to broaden the scope of architecture on University campus according to Mr. Stafford..

"The design of the building, especially the peaked sides, will reflect the older-style Belfield towers, which will remain standing," Mr. Stafford said, gesturing to the hundreds of detailed diagrams surrounding the Lab-Plus Program's office in Judd Hall. "But there will still be a juxtaposition between new and old.

"We want the architecture of the Arts Wing to tie in with the older architecture on campus, but we kept the Belfield Towers so there would still be a contrast.

"The insides of both towers will be renovated for new purposes. Belfield East will be a main entrance to the Arts Wing, so its corridors will need to be widened and its classrooms reconfigured and made smaller.

"Belfield West, the current music tower, will be connected to Judd and the Arts Wing on the third floor, which it currently isn't, and will contain a new high school library on the second floor. We'll start moving all the furniture from the classrooms the week of June 24.

"Things will be hectic for a while, but I put off my retirement for five years to work on this project and I don't regret it a bit. Once it's done, the new wing will make incredible improvements

to this school and community."

Andrew Neal, 1978 U-High graduate, Lab Schools parent, and Lab-Plus Campaign co-chairman along with Penny Pritzker and John Rogers, and University Project Steering Committee chairman, says he thinks the new wing will hugely improve the performing arts program at U-High.

He recalled his own experiences in the Belfield Hall classrooms initially created as shop classrooms for the Chicago Manual Training School in 1882.

"None of the spaces in Belfield were originally designed for what they ended up being used for, and it has really affected the arts program," Mr. Neal said. "In designing the new building we hired theater and acoustical consultants to make sure that each room, especially the performance spaces, were just right.

"I know it'll make an unbelievable difference for the theater program to have a space with adequate lighting and sound equipment that is, most importantly, designed to be a theater, instead of the converted arts classroom it's in now."

Lab Schools Director David Magill says the Arts Wing's assembly hall will provide much-needed space for U-High's expanding student body to gather.

"We're expecting our student body to grow to about 600 students after all of the construction is completed," Mr. Magill explained. "A vital component of the new wing is that it will provide an assembly hall big enough to fit the entire high school and staff, over 700 people, which will be available for grades 3 through 12. Our school has really missed a space where we can gather for assemblies and school meetings."

ng....Fond farewell to Belfield Hall

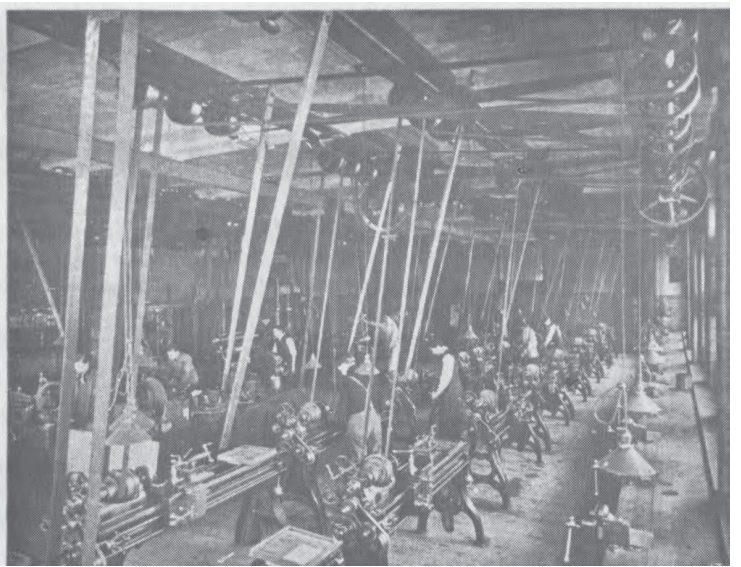
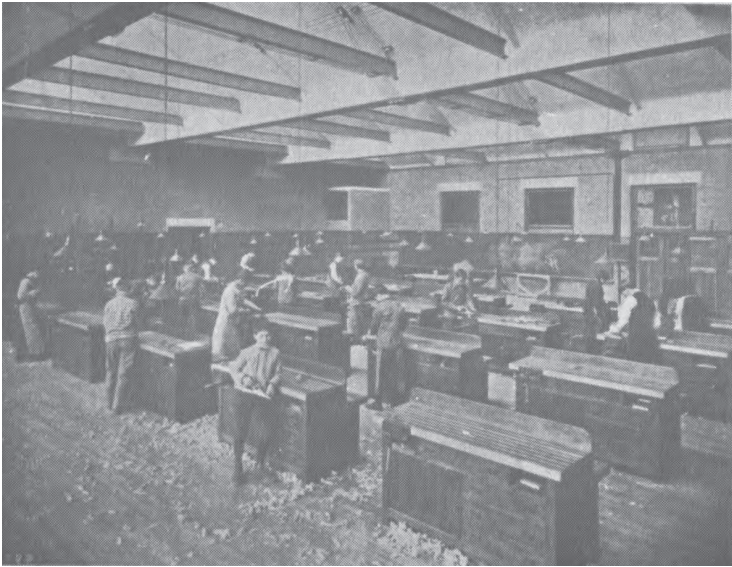


Photo reproductions by Ken Devine, Class of 1968, from the 65th anniversary issue of the Midway June 11, 1968

Henry Holmes Belfield Hall was constructed as the Chicago Manual Training School, one of three institutions which came together to form University High School. The others were the University of Chicago Secondary School and the South Side Academy. Dr. Belfield was the new school's director. The building's rooms were high, wide and skylighted. These photos from early yearbooks show, left, the woodworking shop, part of which is now the photography classroom and darkroom area. The beams and windows were eventually

covered with plaster, but the original door to the hallway is there, intact but sealed. The center photograph shows the blacksmith shop, which became a drafting room and probably is the present-day gym. And, right, is the complex machine shop with its overhead pulleys which is believed to be the present-day Belfield 137. It was originally was remodeled to serve the Guidance Department and administrators with a balcony level and stairs taking advantage of the room's height.

Fine Arts classes head for new locations

By Natalie Holley
Associate editor

Demolition of Belfield Hall beginning this August will leave students and teachers in interim classrooms for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years.

During the two years of construction, classes currently in Belfield Hall will take place in other locations around the school, using spaces no longer needed by the Nursery, Kindergarten, and Primary Schools following their move to the new Earl Shapiro Early Childhood Center. David Stafford, associate director of the Laboratory Schools, is in charge of creating a smooth transition as possible.

"In July we'll begin to focus on vacating the center of Belfield and moving all of the materials from there to Judd or Blaine," Mr. Stafford explained. "That's where most of the interim classrooms will be. For example, Judd 207 is currently used for the after-school program but because that's moving to the new location on Stony Island we'll be able to use it for misplaced classes."

While no courses will be cut during the two-year period, Fine Arts teachers say they will have to adapt their lesson plans to their new settings.

"The administration said they won't make an interim dark room, which makes it so we'll have to go digital for two years," Photography Teacher Liese Ricketts said. "It'll be a change for everyone doing photography but it won't be impossible. Any students who still have a strong interest in using actual film will be able to send their photos to Central Camera, a camera store located downtown."

"I'm not worried about teaching next year," she added. "The school will supply me with what I need. I'll design a new curriculum over the summer that takes all of this into account. I'm excited to incorporate different things and excited because the students will have the chance to do different things."

Art Teacher Brian Wildeman will operate from a classroom in Blaine Hall.

"They asked the department chair what every class needed and what each teacher would be bringing to their interim room," Mr. Wildeman said. "I requested a large room with sinks, because they're probably what I need the most when teaching and the school was able to give me that."

"I'll be moving to a kindergarten classroom, and, while it's subject to change, I'll probably be in Blaine 117. That space will be fine for Studio Art, Advanced Drawing and Painting and Seventh Grade Art. The only thing I won't be able to bring with me for these classes is the spray booth, where we spray a special solution called Fixatif on certain pieces of artwork to prevent the color from bleeding or spreading."

During the construction period the theatre program will be moved to Judd 126, a historic assembly space.

"I have to say that moving is always concerning, but at the end of the day, theatre's theatre," Drama Teacher Liucija Ambrosini said. "Actors have to learn how to act, Tech has to learn the basics and meet their certain standards, but everything else besides that is adaptable. Adjusting to whatever space we're in is part of what performers do."

Belfield Hall's places in the heart

Photo essay and captions by Lili Steffen, Midway photo editor,
and Carolyn Voth



"While taking this picture, I was surrounded by children playing in Scammons. It's a bitter-sweet feeling knowing that in a year all of this, and the building, will be gone." —Lili



"Looking back on all my years in high school, the photography room in Belfield was my home. There was so much in that room for students to create and discover." —Lili



"With the destruction of Belfield comes the destruction of a culmination of student's artwork that has become a part of Art Teacher Brian Wildeman's room." —Carolyn



"Belfield contains so much of the past, with this example of Middle school artwork. This time capsule developed over the years will sadly be lost." —Carolyn



"I feel like the originality of the Lab School theater will be erased. From the audience area to the costumes rooms, the current U-High theater has a unique personality." —Carolyn



"Between the photography and Mr. Wildeman's room, I believe the art alley will be what people remember the most when thinking of Belfield Hall in years to come." —Lili

As the Midway sees it One course doesn't fit all

Level up. With only so many hours in a day, and many classes required for graduation, offering multiple levels of some classes would allow U-Highers to better prioritize their efforts. Already, classes such as Precalculus and Conceptual Physics have offered U-Highers a range of alternatives. Added to U-High's course selection last year, Precalculus presented a third choice of difficulty level for students looking to enroll in a precalculus course. The course has become a popular alternative to its more rigorous counterparts, Precalculus/Intro to Calculus and Advanced Precalculus/Calculus A. Similarly, for sophomores and juniors enrolling in their second year of history, the History Department offers three options: AT Modern European History, AT Modern World History and Modern World History, all of which cover similar material but with different focuses and levels of rigor. Classes like Precalculus and Modern World History provide U-Highers with an opportunity to learn a subject without having to struggle through the course. However, many courses at U-High, such as Biology and Early World History, are offered at only one difficulty level. Gifted students, and those who struggle with the subject, are lumped into the same class, a standardized model of education that, by design, sets some students up for failure while insufficiently challenging others. These core introductory classes—Biology, English 1, Early World History—should be offered at varying levels of difficulty. According to Principal Scott Fech, additional class levels can be added without needing to hire more staff, if enough students sign up for the courses. Instead of pushing students past their limits in classes beyond their difficulty level, U-High should shift its focus to ensuring that U-Highers can learn and enjoy a subject without struggling to pass.

Kind words, kids

“John Lin is a good kid. Sometimes, when he lets his guard down, you can see what a kind and caring person he really is.” That message, along with dozens of others, was posted on the Facebook account “U-High Compliments,” which posts anonymous compliments U-Highers give each other. After seeing similar pages at the University of Chicago and Latin School, a U-Higher founded the page in January, without using his or her name. “I think it’s a great way to encourage some school spirit and brighten someone’s day; there’s definitely some fun in the mystery of who said such a nice thing about you,” he or she said. Indeed it is, with posts ranging from heartfelt and honest to giggle-out-loud funny. Much like senior letters, the page offers U-Highers a moment of reflection on their relationships. Plus, the anonymity allows students to say syrupy-sweet things, without the awkwardness. In the words of one post on the page, “whoever came up with this idea... you’re the sweetest ever.”

One college deferral isn't the end for this senior

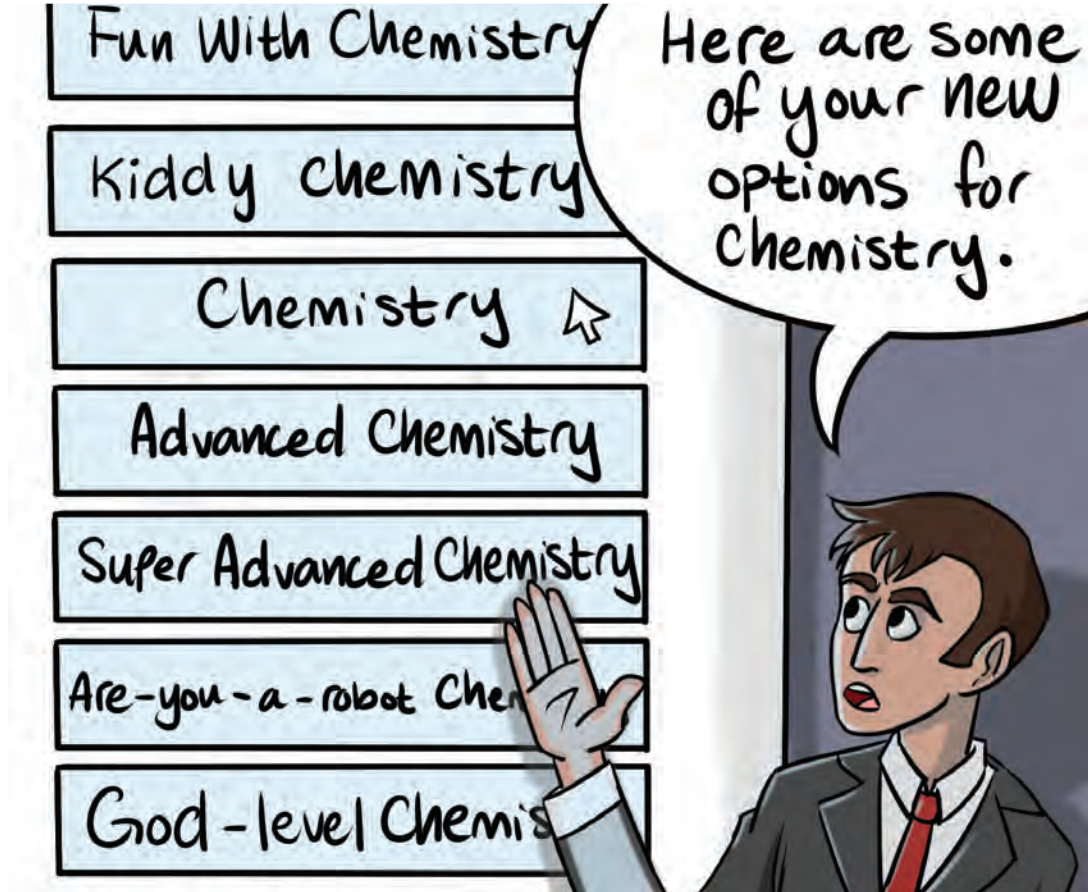
By Duncan Weinstein
Opinion columnist

As soon as I got home, my mother was waiting. With much fanfare, I logged into my Yale account, my mom hovering over my shoulder. A letter popped up, which she frantically scanned. “Sorry,” she said, tapping me on the shoulder, before I had a chance to finish reading. I had gotten deferred from my only early action college. On a whim, I checked Facebook. The girl down the street got in. A classmate also applying to Yale texted me his news, which was the same as mine. Yet for some reason, I really wasn’t upset. Maybe because I had expected this result, or I had decided I wouldn’t let my college decisions affect my self-esteem. Throughout the next few days, everyone I told was supportive and sympathetic. I appreciated their consolations, but they also made me feel like I should’ve been sadder than I was. Knowing this wasn’t the end—that seven other schools would consider me—made it a lot easier to deal with.

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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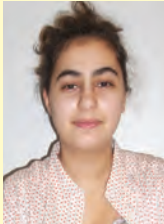
Cartoon by Lydia Fama

10-second editorials

■ **A DRILL ANNOUNCED** days before is not a drill. It’s a rehearsal. A week before a lockdown drill Thursday, January 17, faculty members received an e-mail from Operations Coordinator Paul Gunty stating a drill was coming. Lockdown drills begin with a special signal, followed by faculty and student procedures. Teachers were told in the e-mail to remind students of drill procedures. But announcing drills to teachers and students doesn’t prepare them for an actual threat. The school has done one lockdown drill a year to fulfill the state’s requirement; other schools have one every two or three weeks. Drills should be second nature to both faculty and students,, not novelties. The same problem exists with tornado drills; since they only happen once a year, they don’t become second nature. Lockdown drills are intended to prepare students and faculty in the event of an intruder, but if everyone knows that a drill is happening, it’s not preparatory at all. And that’s exactly why this drill shouldn’t be the last. Next time, let it be as unexpected as an actual intruder.

■ **WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME.** All year long, things have felt a little off. A week off, exactly. With school starting September 10 this year, a full week after Labor Day, and Winter Break ending December 22, just three days before Christmas, this year’s calendar is less than ideal. The late start left most U-Highers a free week after most summer programs ended, but at the expense of a longer first week. Then, the unusually late Winter Break, December 22 through January 6, compared to last year’s break December 17 to January 2, left families just two days to prepare for Christmas. In past years, Thanksgiving break signified the nearing of the end, with only two or three weeks remaining until Winter Break. However, with a month of school left after it this year, the quarter seemed to drag on. Plus, the school year doesn’t end until June 13, keeping U-Highers in class instead of outside in the increasingly warm and sunny days. This year, May Project will only partly live up to its name, running from May 13-June 6. Thankfully, next year’s calendar looks better than this year’s.

Say What?



Nadja

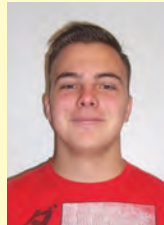
When you think of Valentine’s Day, what comes to mind?

NADJA BARLERA, senior: I think it’s nice when friends show love for each other, and not just couples. But I also think it’s a holiday when people spend a lot of money on things they don’t need.



Portia

PORTIA WILLIAMS, junior: Well, besides a naked baby flying around shooting people in the back with arrows making them fall madley in love, I think of red roses, chocolates, candy hearts and showing love to people you care about.



Miles

MILES GROGGER, sophomore: Slightly awkward cards from your grandparents. Other than that, a great excuse to buy chocolates for yourself.



Mingus

MINGUS ZOLLER, freshman: Being forever alone. Not even joking.

—Compiled by Michele George-Griffin

Glick; 19, sports, Luke Murphy; 20, photofeature, Hebah Masood and Lili Steffen

COLUMNISTS
Opinion, Duncan Weinstein; food, Moira Differding; music, Marissa Page; student opinion, Michele George-Griffin; sports, Mike Glick and Luke Murphy.

CRITICS
Film, Luke Murphy; music, Marissa Page.

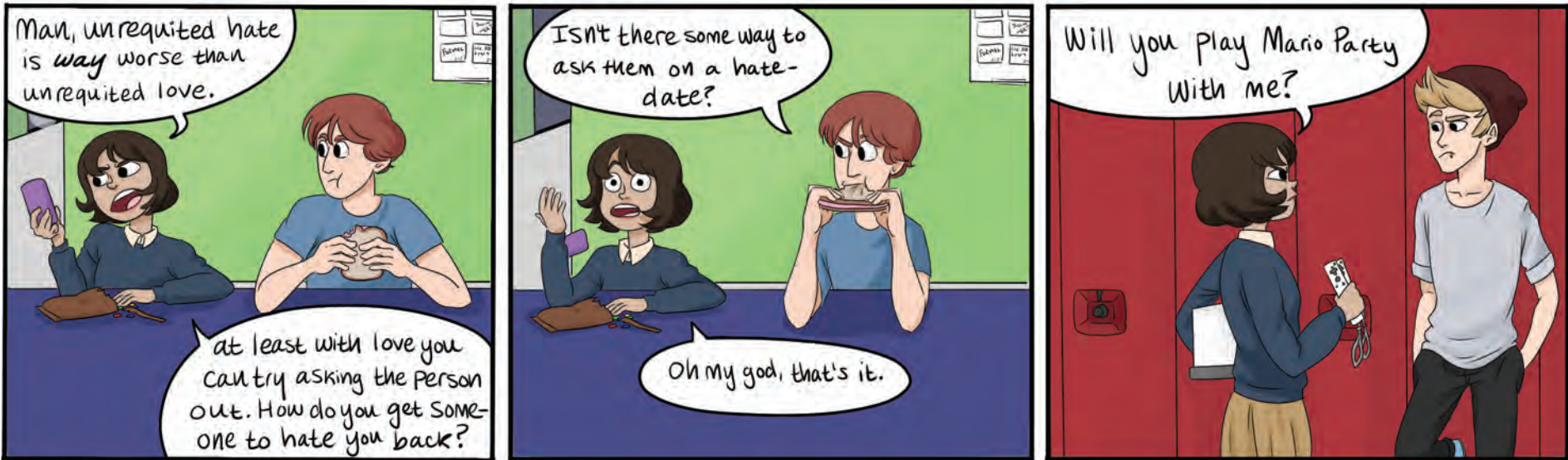
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Dolor Sit Amet.....by Lydia Fama



Retro dress silhouette sweetens snowy days

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Fashion editor

A timeless fashion icon to sweeten up bitter winter days. Sweetheart dresses, known for their rounded, v-shaped neckline, are a staple of many U-Highers' closets, and can be seen in the hallways paired with leggings or cowboy boots this time of year. They bring back the memories of fun summer nights to dreary winter days, and can brighten anyone's mood just by wearing them.

Often seen in unique patterns like her peacock-feather print tights, junior Sheridan Small says she likes to incorporate contrasting colors into her outfits by combining colorful dresses, tights and shoes.



Sonia

"I like to pair sweetheart dresses with tights or sometimes a sweater," Sheridan said. "If I have a dress with a collar it looks good with the collar sticking out."

"Modcloth has really cool, unique tights that are fun. They have a really wide range and some of the stuff is really expensive but they have a lot of sales."

Also a fashion icon of many pop singers such as Taylor Swift, flowy dresses in soft pinks evoke a girly, romantic vibe. However, they can just as easily be paired with leather jacket and boots to send off an edgier tone. Or they can take on a more glamorous, formal look combined with a pair of heels and jewelry.

Whatever your sweetheart dress' "tone," the style provides an easy way to dress up a little this winter, and even brings a pop of bright spring and summer fashion to a below-freezing day.



slate.com

Earning an Best Actor nomination, Daniel Day Lewis played a convincing Abraham Lincoln in "Lincoln."

An Oscar for Abe?

By Luke Murphy
Film critic

As influential in Civil War politics as in cinema today, Abraham Lincoln served as inspiration for Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln," my projected winner of the Best Picture award at the Oscars February 24, 2013.

The other nominees for Best Picture, "Amour," "Argo," "Beasts of the Southern Wild," "Django Unchained," "Les Misérables," "Life of Pi," "Silver Linings Playbook" and "Zero Dark Thirty," span years of world history and themes from religion to mental illness.

From the amazing makeup in "Lincoln" to "Life of Pi's" computer-generated tiger, they employ remarkable visual effects to accompany incredible acting from their casts.

After tallying up the number of nominations each movie received, the three competitors for Best Picture are "Les Misérables," with three nominations; "Lincoln," with four; and "Silver Linings Playbook," with five.

"Les Misérables," a dramatic musical set in post-Revolution France, incorporates song and stunning scenery to tell the story of ex-convict Jean Valjean, who becomes the guardian of a young girl named Cosette. "Lincoln," which chronicles Abraham Lincoln's last days in office, employs Tony Kushner's amazing screenwriting ability and Daniel Day Lewis' acting prowess to bring the 16th President off the pages of history books. Finally, "Silver Linings Playbook" is a gritty, raw drama about a man readjusting to his life after his discharge from a mental hospital.

Each movie features a talented cast, big budget and excellent production. While they're all great choices for Best Picture, I expect "Lincoln" to win. The combination of Best Director nominee Steven Spielberg, Best Actor nominee Daniel Day Lewis and Best Supporting Actress nominee Sally Field is a tough act to beat.

I also predict that Steven Spielberg and Daniel Day Lewis will win in their categories, and Jennifer Lawrence will win Best Actress for "Silver Linings Playbook."



Luke



Fond of unique patterns and colors, Sheridan paired a white and blue-green dress with tights and red leather shoes from DSW (photos from left). "I like the contrasting colors; blue and green, red from the shoes and black," Sheridan explained. "I also like the patterns, especially the peacock feathers on these tights I got at Modcloth."

Photos by Fiona Potter

New Local Natives album inconsistent in a good way

By Marissa Page
Music critic

Underlined by strong instrumental work, psychedelic-folk band Local Natives' sophomore release "Hummingbird" combines unique percussion and soaring vocals.

Based out of Silver Lake, Los Angeles, Local Natives was formed in 2008 by vocalist Kelcey Ayer, guitarist Ryan Hahn, guitarist Taylor Rice, drummer Matt Frazier and bassist Andy Hamm shortly after graduating from UCLA. The band released its first album, 2009's "Gorilla



Marissa

Manor," in the UK on Infectious Records. Three months later, in February 2010, the album was released under Frenchkiss Records in the USA.

Throughout his career, Ayer's soulful croon has evoked numerous comparisons to Fleet Foxes' Robin Peckold's. The similarity between the two groups is less apparent in "Hummingbird," in which Ayer's twangy tone gives Local Natives' futuristic beat a more down-home feel.

Like its namesake, "Hummingbird" buzzes constantly. Each song contains a thrumming sense of anticipation and resonant, rhythmic undertone. On the album, Local Natives flit frequently between different musical styles between

and even within individual tracks, most notably "Breakers," which contains notes of techno-pop, folk and rock.

Other highlights from the album include fluid "Ceilings," which encompasses psychedelic flavor with poetic lyricism; gritty "Black Balloons," with an infectious, rambling beat; "Columbia," a somber, emotional piece with jazzy vocals; and "Bowery," which flows out of "Columbia" and takes off, showcasing Ayer's swelling voice.

Occasionally, Ayer's reedy timbre becomes vinegary, as on introductory track "You and I" and "Three Months". These songs, the album's weakest, do little to detract from the soul and mysticism of "Hummingbird" overall.



"HUMMINGBIRD" is California band Local Natives' second C.D.

Spreading the sound of music in new ways

With collaborations, U-Highers explore

By Will Kent
Midway reporter

Performing with new collaborators, U-High musicians have been broadening both their appearances and their repertoire, most recently with the U. of C. Brass Ensemble and the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) Senior Band and the Middle School Band.

After two rehearsals, the U-High Band brass section performed with the U. of C. Brass Ensemble December 2 at Fulton Recital Hall. The full band will play in concert with the U. of C. Wind Ensemble 4 p.m. Sunday at the Logan Performing Arts Center, 60th and Drexel. The public is invited.

**MIDWAY
ARTS**

Freshmen Julia Hedges and Harry Ni were both chosen to play in the Illinois Music Educators Association Senior Band at a Fall Festival November 17 at DeKalb High School. Julia placed 16th chair out of 32 clarinetists, and Harry placing 2nd chair out of four oboists.

PERFORMING WITH Middle Schoolers for the first time, the U-High Band gave its annual Winter concert November 29 and the Orchestra gave theirs December 4, the first time they have done full individual programs.



Photo by Jason Deng

Violinist since age 4, senior Lauren Blacker now plays with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra and with fellow seniors Yaning Zhang, John Lin and Catherine Zhou as a string quartet. "I practice violin about 15 hours a week," Lauren said. "It's hard to balance music with soccer, math team and everything else I do. It's rewarding at times, but a struggle at others."



Photo by Jason Deng

U-High's celebrated Jazz Band requires enormous time and dedication. These musicians, from left, are senior Sean Magill, electric guitar; senior Adam Kelsick, bass guitar; senior Markus

Hoeckner, drums, and sophomore Jeffrey Jou, alto saxophone. In recent years, the Band has been exploring new music and new performing opportunities.

U. of C. Brass Ensemble Director Tom Kociela explained how that prestigious group got involved with the U-High Band brass section.

"After the ensemble performed at U-High, Barbara Schubert, the head of the Performance Program at the U. of C., decided that the two ensembles should join together in a concert. Mr. Dean and I were very enthusiastic about the concert because it was good to do something with the kids and it helped increase the awareness of the ensemble.

"THE AIM OF playing the concert with the Lab students was not only to improve their musicianship, but challenge and inspire them. By playing in a more advanced group like the brass ensemble, U-High students can realize how good they can sound, which will drive them to work harder."

Trombonist Sam Van Loon, sophomore, said of the experience, "I really enjoyed working with the conductor of the ensemble. He had a great personality and cares about music. He managed the ensemble well, allowing the group to play together well."

After auditioning in October, both Harry and Julia were impressed by the IMEA ensemble's level of play.

"THE FESTIVAL was very fun, I made lots of friends," Harry said. "The conductor was quite witty, he tried to crack jokes, but didn't do a very good job because they weren't good jokes. However, he was a great conductor. The concert went very well and the musicians involved were very good. It was very laid back and took place in a gym called the field house at the high school we were at. Despite the lack of formality at the concert, I really want to go back next year. I can't wait."

Music Teacher Francisco Dean accompanied the Jazz Band during their performance; Laura Lichter, mother of freshmen Emma Lichter and Aaron Lich-

ter, Class of 2010, said she was impressed..

"I thought some very sophisticated pieces were played. I especially enjoyed that Mr. Dean played with the High School Jazz Band. It is nice to have your teacher be able to groove with you. I thought the parents were impressed with the level of play."



Photo by Jason Deng

Her love for singing took senior Kayla DeSouza to India in January with the Chicago Children's Choir. "I've been in the CCC seven years," Kayla said. "We were in India for 10 days. I sing because music takes me to a different place. Really embracing a piece is an extraordinary feeling." Talented U-Highers have a long history with the internationally-known Choir.

Music thieves among music makers

By Moira Differding
Arts page editor

Ask U-Highers if they've pirated music before, and there's a roughly 65 percent chance they'll say yes... if they're being honest.

Easy, free access to millions of songs and albums sounds great. But the fine for getting caught could cost you millions of dollars, legal experts say.

One hundred U-Highers were asked for this story if they pirated music, either by burning CDs or downloading songs on the internet. Thirty-five said no, 65 said yes. Those replying "yes" may not realize they are risking penalties ranging from a \$750 minimum fine to as much as \$250,000 and five years in prison.

Many artists complain that piracy undercuts their artistic rights and that the profits they receive from online streaming services are meager.

One U-Higher (every student interviewed asked to remain anonymous) believes that pirating isn't going to go away, despite the efforts of the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act which makes online piracy illegal.

"I pirate because it is in my self interest," the U-Higher said. "The fact is pirating allows me to get movies and TV shows more quickly and more cheaply than any legal distribution network. While iTunes takes months before movies are available,

pirates have copies days after release.

"Not only that, but iTunes is expensive and riddled with inconvenient digital rights management software. To get an HD-quality TV show, I have to pay \$2.99 on iTunes for what I can get for free by torrenting. Even if I do pay the \$2.99, it's impossible to easily get it on to all my devices because of the digital use controls they have."

Many U-Highers say copyright law has become severely outdated. Currently, copyrights extend 70 years past the death of the author.

"While copyright is ingrained in the American psyche as necessary 'to promote the progress of science and useful arts,' copyright as we have it today does the opposite," one UHigher said.

"Companies such as the Recording Industry Association of America and Walt Disney lobbied Congress to ensure their profitable intellectual property would keep earning them money. If movies were available through a legal source easily and quickly after release without oppressive copy-protection, I would not pirate, and most would not either.

"The reason that pirating is so popular is that it is impossible to get movies and TV shows otherwise. There is a better but still not perfect solution coming up in the music industry: Spotify. I gladly pay a monthly fee to have easy access to music. Pirating is not easy, and if there was an easier, quicker way to access our

favorite TV shows and movies, people would use it and pay for it en masse. One thing is for sure, it's not going away and companies will need to adapt."

One U-Higher who doesn't pirate prefers the quality of legally-purchased music.

"I actually do not mostly because I find the quality isn't as good and it's harder for me to organize," the U-Higher said. "I don't buy so much music that the cost feels like it builds up. I don't have a moral issue with pirating really, I just think that, in general, iTunes offers a better service than torrent."

Despite the popularity of pirating, some people do get caught, usually when they download large amounts of data on a private network, such as the University of Chicago's. When someone is caught violating DMCA regulations using the U. of C. network, a detector reports it to Information Technology Services.

"Large organizations like the RIAA channel funds into developing programs designed to catch pirates," said Curt Lieneck, Lab Schools director of information technology. "When they find one they inform the owner of the network, in U-High's case, the University of Chicago. Students have gotten caught before. The U of C IT Services notifies me and I report it to U-High Dean of Students Larry McFarlane. Mr. McFarlane then follows up with the student."



Trendy North Side neighborhood stays true to its roots

By Clay Surmeier
City Life editor

Distant shouts of “41! Now serving 42!” and the homey smell of freshly baked bread announce the rustic rainbow of European food and drink within Gene’s Sausage Shop & Deli even before a recent visitor steps beneath its life-sized cow statue and out of the bitter cold into the store.

Turning to find the source of these shouts, I see more than 40 different varieties of sausages hanging under colorful chalk details and drawings being cut, packaged and handed out by four men dressed in white with black Gene’s Sausage shop hats and matching aprons.

Walking up the hardwood beige stairs near the back of the room, past the occasional Bears fans, hats and jerseys dark blue and construction orange, I find the second floor of the 2,000 square foot building. Imported European beer bottles as well as local craft brewers and wines from all over the globe line the walls. The second floor provides a favorable view of the whole store, a couple gazes down onto the assortment of European goods and winter décor as classical piano music echoes around the white brick face walls.

ABOVE THE SHOP, a rooftop beer and wine garden serves as a lively gathering place for families, couples and friends in warmer months. Soon, the deck will flourish with flowers and self-grown vegetable plants overlooking Lincoln



Photo by Matthew Garvey

A neighborhood favorite, Ravenswood Used Bookstore overflows with books. The former furniture store’s walls are decorated with small hand-drawn maps to show patrons the way through this labyrinthine store.

Avenue, a street filled with bookstores, restaurants and classics like the Davis Theater and Old Town School of Folk Music.

Gene Luszcz moved the shop to 4750 North Lincoln Avenue in 1980 in search of more space than its Roscoe Street location. The Polish family sausage recipes of Gene and his brother John and their smoking techniques have found their place at the heart of the Lincoln Park tradition.

According to the Encyclopedia of Chicago, Lincoln Square’s commercial agriculture focused on truck farming and mass production of flowers, pickles and celery. In 1836, Swiss immigrant Conrad Sulzer purchased property near what today is the intersection of Montrose and Clark. Truck farmers, mostly of German and English descent, did the same.

IN 1978, rerouting the traffic and causing some controversy, the Lincoln Square mall was created, undoubtedly a catalyst to the neighborhoods present popularity. That, paired with the aggressive business and civic organization, provides the grounds for the slightly trendy European reputation Lincoln Square has today.

Lincoln Square is still heavily German-influenced and populated but has branched out to encompass a diverse array of shops and restaurants, from Opart Thai House to Café Selmarie.

Easily reached on the Brown Line elevated, Lincoln Square spirals out from the intersection of West Lawrence Avenue and North Western Avenue, where there is street parking and a parking lot positioned right at North Lincoln Avenue and West Leland Avenue.

THE NOW winter-barren mall, the fountain in the middle of the street stands dry, wreaths replacing water, has few people about, most others huddled inside stores and restaurants.

Crossing the narrow stretch of Lincoln that runs through the mall, a rollerblader rides by, scarfs flying behind her in the frigid winter wind. I fall into line behind a mother on my way down Lincoln, sippy cup hanging out of her jacket pocket, pushing around a stroller overflowing with blankets.

As the L thunders overhead I notice an old German-American fest flyer on a Red Eye. Lincoln Square is in fact home to many annual festivals. The German-American Fest, Sun-

day, starts at noon but don’t miss the annual Von Steuben Parade that Saturday. German music plays while people dress up in classic German attire, vendors sell brats, potato salad and other traditional foods and beer.

ANOTHER, the Summer Concert Series, occurs during the summer when Bands come out and play music for free, from pop country to reggae, which begins June 14 and continues every Thursday night from 6:30-9:30 in Giddings Plaza through August 30.

Lastly, the Chicago Folk & Roots music festival, where the Old Town School of Folk Music and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce’s couple music and beer in fun frenzy. Local indie rockers to world music stars perform July 12-14 both inside and out of the Old Town School. Guests are invited to join the streets flooded with people, nightly dance parties, open jams, and plenty of family activities.

Composed of narrow corridors, twisting and turning into little nooks, Ravenswood Used Books has collected books that stack from floor to ceiling, literally. It is easy to miss with only a small “Used Books” sign for advertisement. Storeowner Jim Mall, a tall, older man, gray hair uniform a couple inches from his head wearing a pine tree green sweater, pale blue collar hugging his neck, exchanges art and architecture books with an elder Asian man, head barely peaked out of a Ferrari red coat.

“THE STORE used to be filled with antique furniture and every time we’d sell something we’d move in a bookcase to fill the space,” he said thoughtfully, rubbing his tortoise shell glasses. “Becoming a bookstore was never planned, it just sort of happened.

“In 1990 antiques were very popular and a friend of mine who rented across the street got me to move my store to Lincoln Square to try and start an antique store area, similar to others at the time. He later decided he needed a higher traffic area with more rich people and I stayed.

“The rent has really gone up since I moved in. The hallmark of this cancerous change was Starbucks. They moved in about 12 years ago, driving rents through the roof. Luckily, before this area got hot, independent shops came in and pretty much filled up this place so when these other big companies came there wasn’t room. That’s what really makes this neighborhood different.”

ALTHOUGH Ravenswood Used Books may not have been the most well known attraction, the hype of Lincoln Square led to more people its discovery, Mr. Mall said.

“People come in here from all over the city. Most of them come to see a movie at the Davis Theater or go to the Old Town School of Folk Music for example and stop by my place on the way out.”

Straight out of the ‘80s, the old school citywide attraction is situated just next door to Ravenswood Used Books. One of the classic visits in Lincoln Square, Davis Theater, completed in 1918, shows popular movies at a cheaper-than-average price.

OPENING its Lincoln Square facility in 1998, the Old



Photo by Matthew Garvey

Taking a break from walking in Lincoln Square’s Welles Park, Benny Friedman, Francine Almeda and Clayton Surmeier debate where to head next, settling on Julius Meinel café.

Town School of Folk Music, 4544 North Lincoln Avenue, bustles with musicians. One walks out as I am about to go escape the cold in the new tan brick building, guitar case slung over his shoulder, pens over both ears, one blue one black, notepad in hand fixing his boxy clear lenses. One of many who have taken some of their 700 accredited class offerings, Sophomore Benny Friedman got started there at a young age.

“I took bongo lessons there when I was 6 or so,” he said. “It was fun and basically introduced me to music at a really young age. When I was nine, they got me started on the guitar. I’ve since continued to play and become slightly obsessed according to my friends. Although I’m pretty much self-taught at this point I still go to Old Town for concerts and stuff. It’s a really inspirational place with people like Steve Goodman coming out of it. It’s really been a great source of musical talent my whole life.”

Chicago Pharmacist Peter Merz in an attempt to create a place to fill prescriptions and, more importantly, a source of information and remedies for common ailments, established Merz Apothecary in 1875. In 1982, the store moved to its current location, 4716 North Lincoln Avenue, in Lincoln Square and has become a regular stop for Midwest tours.

DESPITE its increasing attention, the store has continued its focus on providing superior personal service. Past the wooden exterior and glass displays showing off an assortment of colorful soaps and red flowers and into the store, you will find the usually busy store filled to the brim with natural medicines. In low hum of chatter of medical information, you can usually hear a few of the seven languages the staff speaks as you look around the dark brown wooden interior with bright white ceilings.

Although commercial space mostly is filled up, some new businesses have wriggled their way into to the neighborhood in the past few years.

One of the newer restaurants, Gather, 4530 North Lincoln Avenue, opened recently. Completely renovating the restaurant building, Owner David Breo transformed the once old, rotten space into a homey restaurant with dimmed lights, green and purple color scheme and shared tables as well as a back tasting room and outside enclosure to open in the summer.

“I LIVE in the area go on walks around here with my wife and kids,” Mr. Breo said as he sipped his glass of water. “I wanted to find a place that would accept us into the community, and found it right here.

From \$5 potatoes, pureed roasted or fried, to a \$24 grilled angus, most of the food rests between the \$8 to \$15 range. “We wanted to keep the price low to get people coming back to try new things, like our \$14 burger which I think everyone will love.”

Previouslyworking as a chef at Chef Charlie Trotter’s restaurant, regarded among the finest in the world, Head Chef Ken Carter prepares a personal favorite dish, Uovo Raviolo, a large ravioli with ricotta, sweet jalapeno, pancetta and white truffle butter.

“We serve New American cuisine with a sense of comfort and sophistication,” Chef Carter said, cooking behind the open kitchen with his two other chefs, blue bandanas wrapped around their heads. “Everything is made in kitchen from baking the buns on the burgers to grinding the meat that goes into them.

“There’s a local farmer’s market right down the road. This is really beneficial because once you make personal relationships with the farmers you can get all the fresh produce you need.”

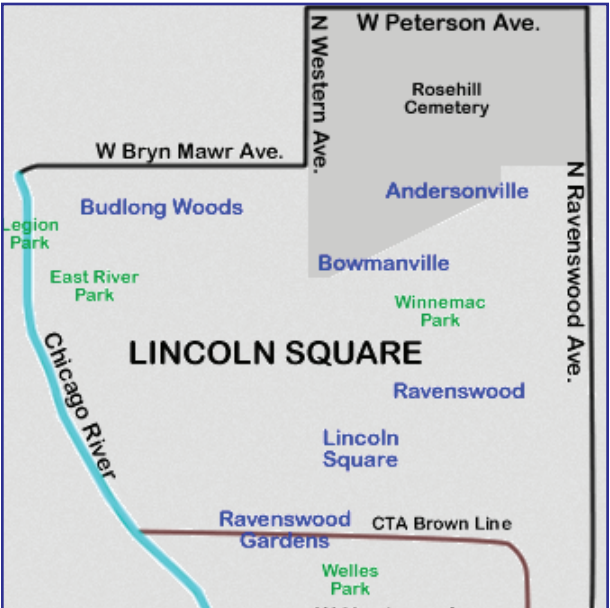




Photo by Matthew Garvey

Dating since March of 2010, sophomore David Yunis and junior Ruby Koontz met during High School Open House when Ruby was a freshman.



Photo courtesy of Maya Hansen

As counselors at 6th-grade camp, senior Maya Hansen and junior Noah Braendel got to know each other better. They started dating last May.



Photo by Matthew Garvey

After crushing on fellow senior Egle Tamulynas-Mendoza for a year, Gabe Ovsiew asked her out last October.

For U-High steadies, every day is Valentine’s Day

(continued from front page)

was meeting a guy so she asked us to pretend we were dating, she kept telling me to hold Egle’s hand. I kept blushing and acting all jittery.”

Egle and Gabe say they didn’t have any real plans for Valentine’s Day last week. “On special occasions we generally don’t need to do a lot of planning,” Egle said. “We just do what we want as the night progresses and we always end up having a fun time. We usually just go on a dinner date and a movie, or something along those lines.”

Dating since March of 2010, sophomore David Yunis and junior Ruby Koontz laughed while quietly sharing a sandwich in the library during a recent Tuesday lunch period.

“I guess initially it was his hair that really made me like him,” Ruby said smiling. “But now that I think about it, I don’t really like anything about him. I like his confidence, and I like that I can learn from it.”

David and Ruby met in October of 2010, when David was in 8th grade and Ruby was a freshman.

“My parents left me to sit in the High School lobby during Open House,” Ruby recounted. “I had a question about English and he was sitting there, too, so that’s

when we really started talking.”

“I think our relationship has been pretty serious since the beginning,” David said. “I mean it’s really fun as well, but it has always been pretty serious. It really started on that note.”

“Not for me!” Ruby chimed in. “I kind of just wanted some English help.”

Even though Ruby lives 30 miles south of school in Munster, Indiana, and David lives on 47th street, just 12 blocks north of school, they still find time to be together outside of school.

“Ruby is in love with Rockefeller Chapel so we go there often,” David said. “She also loves flowers so we go to the circle garden by the Museum of Science and Industry when the weather’s nice.”

Although they had know each other for a while, junior Noah Braendel and senior Maya Hansen say that they really got to know one another while working as counselors at 6th grade camp.

“We were together a lot for five days straight,” Noah said. “I think we became really comfortable with each other because we had to do really embarrassing things like singing karaoke and performing skits. After that we hung out more for about three weeks, and during

Memorial Day Weekend we were both in Beverly Shores and that’s when we started dating.”

Since their relationship began last May, Noah and Maya have been together as much as possible.

“During the summer we biked around a lot between our houses or the point,” Noah said. “We did it pretty regularly and it was really nice and relaxing.

“My parents love Maya. They’re always telling me to invite her over for dinner and other family outings because we don’t spend that much time at my house.”

Thinking about the future of their relationship, Maya said, “I guess generally people that are really committed try to stay together through college, otherwise they typically end on good terms as high school ends. We don’t know and don’t like to think about our plans yet.”

Noah and Maya agree that gift giving on days like Valentine’s Day can prove a source of stress.

“There’s certain serious things that scare both of us, like going on dates and buying presents,” Maya observed. “So we get each other funny gifts for Christmas and birthdays and it takes a lot of the pressure off.

“We have a really funny relationship. We joke around a lot and make fun of each other.”

‘Herstory’ study group

(continued from page 6)

is our history oppressive to women but the way that the history has been presented perpetuates that even more..

“For instance, when it comes to Hatshepsut, the first female ruler of Egypt, we analyzed how a number of historians had been trying to claim things about her, like that she was evil, and usurped the throne, et cetera.

“It hasn’t really changed my personal view, but it’s interesting.”

Students have also found connections, Eliot said, between historical viewpoints on women and current ideologies about Gender.

“The readings have really opened my eyes about how deep certain currents of gender bias run and have run in our society,” Eliot said.

“Somewhat surprisingly, I’ve seen that mostly conservative politicians aren’t really saying anything new. A lot of it is remarkably similar to the rhetoric used by zealots hundreds or thousands of years ago to encourage women to be less independent.

“Herstory has been a really great opportunity to learn about a subject not really covered in typical Lab school classes.

“Ms. Jurisson has been great about giving us really interesting readings and leading fascinating discussion. The small size of the class has been really great as well; everyone is involved in the discussion 100 percent of the time.”

“Being the ‘only guy’ is nothing special. The history of women’s roles in society is not a gender specific topic any more than normal, male-centric classes.”

Laptop proposal

(continued from front page)

fully realized vision, and there is good data to tell us this is something we should be thinking about.”

Principal Scott Fech went through a similar process during his six years as principal at Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond, Indiana.

Mr. Fech says he believes the change would be less of a culture shock at U-High than it was at Bishop Noll because so many students already bring personal devices to school.

“I so rarely go anywhere professionally without my computer,” Mr. Fech explained. “It’s the way the world is starting to work. I think if we don’t prepare students for that experience we’re not preparing them for the world. Also with the icarts,

you lose valuable time getting them set up and logging on.

A short period can go down to 35 minutes because of it. If everyone has their own machine it’ll help use class time better.”

Last September, a Google Network was created for faculty, teachers and parents to communicate with one another.

“Students can login with a lab net ID,” Mr. Lienick explained. “Some teachers have already started to use it with students. It was made because as a school we didn’t have a good calendar system or a great way of collaborating internally. The file server is not web based and so not as spontaneous. As time goes on we will be looking to expand the functionality.”



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Sports editors Mike Glick and Luke Murphy revisit Da Bears



LUKE

Looking for a head coach to provide energy and innovation, the Chicago Bears boldly chose former Canadian Football League (CFL) head coach Marc Trestman to fill the job left vacant by Lovie Smith.

Since his hiring preceding the 2004 season, Smith compiled an 81-63 regular season record. However, he failed to bring the Lombardi Trophy to Chicago in his nine-year tenure, despite a Super Bowl trip in 2006. Combined with only one playoff appearance in the last six seasons, pushed Bears general manager Phil Emery to part ways with Smith and look for new blood.

Trestman certainly brings a dose of that. Five years a head coach in the CFL with two championships under his belt, Trestman hopes to bring his winning ways to Chicago and the NFL. Refreshing to many Chicagoans, Trestman has offensive prowess, unlike the defense-oriented Smith.

Although he has little NFL experience, will Trestman lead the Bears to the playoffs this season and for years to come?

LUKE: In hiring 57-year-old Marc Trestman, a man who has been in the game 31 years, the Bears have made a hire that will set their franchise up

for success. He brings playing experience—Trestman played quarterback in college for the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State University Moorhead—and a coaching career that started in 1981 as a volunteer coach at the University of Miami.

In each job he has had, Trestman has dealt with the offensive side of the ball and therefore brings expertise in the area that the Bears need to most improve to become a Super Bowl contender. Lastly, Trestman, with his offensive style, brings a change, something a franchise with only one playoff appearance in the last six years desperately needs.

MIKE: While it's true that Trestman brings experience, his only previous head coaching came in the CFL, a league so different from the NFL that many Americans would have trouble following a game. In the Canadian game a team only has three downs to get a first down. That virtually eliminates the run game and encourages the quarterback to fling the ball down the field.

Bears quarterback Jay Cutler threw the most interceptions of his career (26) in his first year in Chicago when he attempted 555 passes (over 34 per game). That's more interceptions thrown than in every other year in Chicago for him. Jay Cutler fails when he just throws the ball up. He and the Bears rely on a solid run game, and Marc Trestman's west coast style simply won't allow that.

LUKE: What, you mean the same year without Brandon Marshall at his disposal and during Matt Forte's worst season as a pro? In his first year Jay Cutler threw the ball so much because that was the only way the Bears could score, and they learned the hard way that that was not a way to be successful.

Trestman is a man that can adapt, evidenced by his success in college football, the NFL, and the Canadian Football League. You could view it as ill-preparation for his time with the Bears, or you could see that after all those years in the NFL, he was still able to adapt his schemes and lead a team to multiple championships.

MIKE: Yeah, Trestman has ably adapted from place to place, league to league. However, with the effective Rod Marinelli no longer defensive coordinator, Trestman will be forced to adapt again and address an area of which he knows very little: defense.

He hired Mel Tucker—previously the defensive coordinator of the Jacksonville Jaguars—to replace Marinelli. The Jags gave up just under 28 points per game last season. While the Bears' defense certainly is better than the Jaguars', Tucker didn't shows he's fully capable of solidifying a defense.

LUKE: Defense is the least of the Bears' worries right now. If the Bears' offense had remained consistent, they more than likely would have danced their way through the playoffs. The 49ers and Ravens are both prime examples of the difference great coaching makes. Before their new coaches were hired, both teams had great defenses and offenses that just weren't good enough.

The 49ers are an especially good example. Coach Jim Harbaugh first turned Alex Smith into a top field general and this season did the same with Colin Kaepernick. Trestman has proven himself an offensive innovator, earning the praise of perhaps the greatest wide receiver of all time, Jerry Rice. Regarding Trestman, Rice said: "This is an exceptional hire for the Chicago Bears. He's



MIKE

an offensive-minded coach. He's a great play-caller. He's a guru when it comes to quarterbacking."

MIKE: To undergo those transformations, Smith and Kaepernick had to do something Cutler hasn't proven he's capable of: they had to listen. While gifted with incredible arm strength and above-average mobility, Cutler has proven poisonous to coaches. Recently hired offensive coordinator Aaron Kromer will be the Bears' fourth offensive coordinator in Jay Cutler's fifth year as a Bear.

If Cutler listens to Trestman, perhaps the Bears will get a glimpse of the playoffs in the coming year. But, as a coach who has never been a head coach in the NFL before, Trestman likely will have trouble gaining Cutler's respect. With a head coach like Bruce Arians, who proved himself this season with a 9-3 record as interim head coach of the Colts, gaining Cutler's respect would be easier.

Photos by Matthew Garvey



Photo by Catherine Zhou

On his last lap of the 100 fly, Joey Peng keeps his stroke steady to the wall. Joey swam a 1:02 finishing 2nd, against DeLaSalle and Mt. Carmel.

SCOREBOARD

Boys' basketball

Morgan Park Academy January 18, home: Varsity won 74-44; **Latin**, January 19, away: Varsity won 52-40, j.v. lost 46-31; **Wells**, January 22, home: Varsity won 75-31, j.v. won 53-38; **Elgin**, January 25, home: Varsity won 73-20, j.v. won 56-19; **North Shore**, January 29, away: Varsity lost 45-42, j.v. lost 34-27; **Leo**, February 5, away: Varsity won 40-37, j.v. lost 34-29; **Uno Charter-Garcia**, February 6, away: j.v. won 62-23.

Girls' basketball

In the **2-A Regional Championship** February 7 in Upper Kovler Gym, **St. Francis DeSales** topped the Maroons 47-37.

Followed keenly by an excited crowd, the U-Highers after a frustrating start managed to come within nine points of the Pioneers.

Sophomore Kendall Rallins led the Maroons with 15 points, followed by senior Sophia Gatton with 14. Varsity season ended 21-5, with an ISL record of 6-1, in 2nd place behind **Latin**.

In the Sectional 3-point shoot contest February 14 at Seton Academy, after Midway presstime, Sophia and Kendall com-

peted.

Fencing

Junior Harrison MacRae and senior Nathaniel Green placed 1st and 2nd respectively out of 64 competitors in the men's epee competition at the third annual **Midway Fencing Classic Saturday**, January 12 in Kovler Gym. In the women's epee competition, senior Charlotte Green finished 3rd and the foil trio of sophomore Jennifer Chien, junior Elle Hill and freshman Daphne Schneewind finished 6th, 7th and 8th.

At the **Great Lakes Fencing Championships** Saturday, February 2 in Milwaukee, junior Ellie Hill placed 1st and sophomore Jennifer Chien finished 2nd in women's foil among 40 competitors.

Boys' Swimming

Whitney Young, January 22, home: Varsity lost 58-102, j.v. won 67-56; **Walter Payton**, January 25, home: Varsity won 128-116, j.v. won 104-95; **Lane Tech**, January 29, home: Varsity lost 43-122, j.v. lost 39-117; **DeLaSalle HS and Mt. Carmel**, February 5, home: Varsity won 131-78-84;

A dedicated, versatile swimmer sets high standard

By William Chung
Editor-in-Chief

Easily recognizable by his Maroons swimming shirt and blondespiked hair, Senior Joey Peng brings versatility in the 100 fly.

Joey started swimming as an 8th grader at the Midway Aquatics Club based in Sunny Pool.

"I started swimming because I wanted to lose weight," Joey said. "But I didn't think I would take it that seriously. Swimming defi-

nately helped improve my self-image and self-esteem, but it was hard in the beginning because I was pretty slow."

When Joey joined the U-High team, examples were set by David Chung and Michael Baroody, both Class of 2012.

"Walking into the pool when I first started was a scary experience," Joey said. "Everyone else was really fast and I didn't feel like I was contributing. David and Michael were tearing it up, and leading all the relays. I was definitely inspired by their work ethic, and I told myself that I would be like them when I was an upperclassman."

After improving his 100 fly by more than

6 seconds his junior year, Joey hoped to break his 1:02 personal record at IHSA Sectionals last Saturday, February 16 (after Midway deadline).

"I want to break a minute at Sectionals," Joey said. "I've been swimming a 1:02 in recent meets, and with taper, I hope I can. The fastest for my 50 split is a 26.4, and I know I have to lower that to have a chance."

Swimming has brought together a close group of friends for Joey.

"We're like a family," Joey said. "The seniors set examples for the younger swimmers and drive them to swim their best. We host carbo-loads and we can

talk about anything then. The team brings together a group of people that you might not normally hang out with.

"While swimming isn't technically a team sport, we go through the hurt together and I feel like it brings us closer."

Cocaptain David Tong, senior, believes that Joey plays a vital role in energizing the team. "He is one of the most dedicated swimmers I've competed with," David said. "That definitely rubs off on the others. He participates in all of the events, and actually tries in practice and I really admire that. He's been a versatile swimmer and really helps the team out by swimming different events."



Joey

Standing tall, defender focused on excelling

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor

“Swat!”
So has become the custom when Junior Maud Jansen, the Maroons’ 6-foot-3 lanky center, patrols the paint. Maud has enforced the defensive end for U-High with blocked shots and has supplied consistent points in the paint.

ACCORDING TO Maud, she has aimed to play with universal consistency when she’s on the court.

“For me it is all about being consistent,” Maud said. “I’m not a scorer like Senior Sophia Gattton or Sophomore Kendall Rallins, so for me the defensive side of the ball is where I excel. I play center so I protect the rim and enforce my presence in the paint. My coach has likened me to the San Antonio Spurs’ Tim Duncan, who is all about doing what his team needs and fundamentals. I always make sure to hustle back on defense, and when on offense I try to use my height to my advantage by posting up and making a move to the basket.”



Maud

“Another comparison I like to hear is Carlos Boozer, because although he spends a lot of time with his back to the basket, he also has a jump shot. Being 6-foot-3, I spend a lot of time in the paint, but I do like to stretch the defense with an occasional jumper.”

U-HIGH CLOSED its season with a record of 21-5, and Maud believes the Maroons’ experience contributed heavily to their success.

“Last year we were a pretty young team and had to adjust to playing with each other,” Maud said. “After working hard this summer to improve, we have become a team that knows each other well. Also, this year we have really succeeded at fulfilling our individual roles on the team.”

Despite playing in many games throughout her high school career, one game stands out as Maud’s favorite one to have played in.

“This Christmas we won the Mather Tournament,” Maud said. “The championship was us against Gordon Tech. Their skill matched ours, but we were able to pull out the win. We played great defense and created offensive opportunities out of that.”

MAUD DOESN’T SEE herself playing college basketball, but due to her bond with the program, her teammates and to the game of basketball, she wants to remain connected to the game beyond her high school days.

“Basketball means a lot to me because it’s a change from what is usually expected of me,” she said. “It is a way for me to excel in something that I usually don’t. I’m an academic person so for me to be good at basketball and to dedicate myself to something non-school related is important to me. I’m not really looking to play in college at this point, but we will see what happens. I really hope I can come back for all the alumni games when I graduate. What I have with my teammates this year is special, and I want to hold onto it as long as I can.”



Photo by Fiona Potter

Drive-by deja vu

Determined and powerful, Alex Cohen drives by a Jones College Prep opponent while Patricia Perozo fends off an oncoming Eagles player, allowing Alex to drive one-on-one in the j.v. girls’ 41-27 loss January 10 in Upper Kovler.

Sophomore, starting point guard, focuses on continuing to improve

By Mike Glick
Sports editor

With expectations high after a promising freshman season, Sophomore Jordan Moran has embraced his role as the starting boy varsity point guard.

Coming to U-High from Ariel Community Academy, Jordan provided substantial minutes off the bench for varsity. He also helped power j.v. to the Independent School League tournament championship last year.

Despite helping lead the Maroons to a 9-2 ISL record this season and an 18-7 overall record (last Thursday’s Parker game came after Midway press time), Jordan feels he still has room to improve.

“It’s been hard trying to take on the expectations of this year, rather than last year when I was a freshman and there wasn’t much expected of me,” Jordan said. “But I feel that I have filled my role pretty well this year. There are still things I would like to improve though, like my jump shot.”

“MY COACHES and teammates love to joke around about my shooting ability, but they compliment me on the way I can get to the basket and either finish or kick to an open man.”

Taller than last season at 6-foot-1, Jordan has found a niche pulling down rebounds for the Maroons.

“My rebounding ability has greatly improved this year,” Jordan said. “My jumping has gotten higher at a good rate, but I’ve learned that rebounding isn’t only about jumping but positioning as well. Putting together the knowledge

of rebounding and the ability to jump higher has come together pretty nicely for me.

“I’M DOING A BETTER JOB of picking my spots, especially on the offensive end to run in and get rebounds.

“You can’t just expect to run through the lane and for the ball to land right in your lap. It’s all about predicting where the ball is going to land and finding an opening in that area.”

With poised play and smart decision-making as point guard, Jordan effectively keeps the Maroons calm on the court.

“I bring to the table the ability to slow down the tempo if we need to once we have a lead,” Jordan said. “Our team likes to push the ball to get easy baskets whenever we can, but there are times down the stretch when we don’t need to push it as much.”

“IT ISN’T EASY to get out of that mindset when you have been doing it the whole game though.”

Jordan not only brings basketball talent to the court but leadership as well, according to junior guard Jonathan King.

“Jordan is pretty athletic, so he can usually finish when he gets to the basket,” Jonathan said. “But he also does a great job keeping the team morale up. He’s just a good teammate to have around.”



Photo by Aurielle Akerele

D-Fense!

Attempting to escape a screen set by a Morgan Park player, Jordan Moran lunges out to the ball with Logan Crowl and Brandon Green right behind him in the Maroons’ 74-44 win over the Warriors January 18 in Upper Kovler. The Friday night game brought many fans to the gym.



Photo by Emma Polson

Sublime halftime!

With music blasting in the background, Dance Troupe members, from left, Whitney Beach, Ruby Koontz, Alina Cui, Mutiat Alagbala, Angela White and Maryam Alausa presented their complicated coordinated routine during halftime of a varsity boys’ basketball game. The Troupe also participated in the pre-game ceremonies, including introducing the Maroons’ starters. Other members include: Alexis Acosta, Maya Baroody, Ariel Gans, Ellen Ma, Julia Mearsheimer, Maxine Nesbitt, Alexandra Radway, Olivia Rhodes, Daisee Toledo and Sophia Weaver.



Photo by Lili Steffen

Making the turn in the 3200 meters at the Midway Miles #1, Junior Frank Waggoner finished 3rd out of 7. Frank ran a 11:04.

Outstanding runner also excels in tennis, soccer

By William Chung
Editor-in-Chief

Three-sport athlete Senior Laura Anderson brings experience and a competitive nature to indoor track, winning the 800 meters February 1 at the Midway Miles #1 at Henry Crown, where the girls placed 2nd out of 4 teams.

A lifer, Laura started running in 6th grade to satisfy her competitive spirit.

“I started running competitively in 6th grade on the track team, because my brother was a fast runner on the track team and I wanted to see if I could do just as well,” Laura said.

“I liked sports and I wanted to give it a try. I guess I run because I’d like to think I’m good at it, and after every time I run I feel a great sense of accomplishment. I love to be outdoors.”

As a State tennis player and a member of the varsity soccer team, Laura uses her experience from both to help her compete better.

“Both tennis and soccer keeps me in great shape for track, and vice versa. All the sports are based on endurance, as a tennis player, I can have matches that are sometimes up to three hours long, and having that kind of endurance and that ability to sprint to balls all over the court really helps.

“As a soccer player, I run up and down the field all the time, a lot of the time sprinting to or with the ball. Those sports also help me build endurance, as well as speed and quickness.

ance, as well as speed and quickness.

“We do workouts on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and long runs usually on the Lake Front, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The workouts can include long distances, sprints, and typically a combination of all three types, and it really helps me improve my times.

For example, our workout this Monday was three 1000m runs, two 400m runs, and four 200m runs. On long run days we do anywhere between 4 and 6 miles, typically shooting for 5 or 6.

“We work on our core almost every day. Planks are always involved.”

The 800 meters was Laura’s first individual win as a runner.

“I don’t run the 800m run too often, and it’s been a year since I’ve run any races so I was honestly just hoping to get out there and see what I could do. I was seeded at a 2:36, which I would have liked to run, but ended up running a 2:45.

“The next girl ended 12 seconds behind me so I wasn’t as much focused on the competition as I was on my time.

“I was not at all disappointed with a 2:45 but I know there’s definitely room for improvement. I think I’m going to focus on the 800m run this season and see where that takes me.”



Laura

Briefs

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journal,” Mr. Horton wrote for Education News. “Teachers supervise but students run the show in our school’s tradition.”

■ **NEW CHIEF**—The Deputy Chief of the Patrol Services Bureau at the University of Chicago Police Department, Fountain Walker, became the Lab Schools’ first Director of Security February 1.

Before coming to the U. of C., Chief Walker served seven years as Chief of Campus at Davidson College, a liberal arts college of 1,700 enrollment in North Carolina. He has been in law enforcement more than two decades.

An interview with Chief Walker will appear in the next issue of the Midway.

■ **MEMORIAL SERVICE**—Sophie Ravin, a legendary English teacher at the Lab Schools for 20 years beginning in 1970, will be remembered 2 p.m., Saturday March 2 in Judd 126.

Though known primarily as a U-High English teacher, Ms. Ravin also taught in the Lower School and Middle School and served as a much-praised interim principal for the Middle School.

Her daughters Sonia and Andrea were U-Highers, Classes of 1974 and 1976 respectively.

Her husband Arnold, Professor of Biology at the U. of C, died in 1981.

Many U-High alumni are expected at the service.

Ms. Ravin lived a remarkable life, growing up as Sophie Brody in Budapest, Hungary in the late 1930s and surviving the Nazi occupation with family members separated, lost and in hiding.

She earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education at the University of Rochester in New York.

“Ms. Ravin was many people rolled into one,” said Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler, “tough, sentimental, loving, angry, assertive but a keen listener too. And sharp as a tack. Her students never doubted she gave her

best to teaching and she expected their best in return.”

■ **STATE HONORS**—Seventy-two U-High seniors have been designated Illinois State Scholars by Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

Those recognized comprise approximately the top 10 percent of seniors high schools in the state based on standardized test scores. The program offers recognition but there is no monetary award.

The seniors selected are as follows:

Catherine Adams, Homum Ahsan, Emily Altkorn, Francesco Bacio, Nadja Barbera, Lauren Blacker, Maya Blackstone, Lucas Buccheim-Jurisson, Rachel Buikema, Helen Cain, Meryl Charleston, Ramona Chatman-Morris, William Chung, Annette Cochran, Sarah Curci.

Amartya Cochran, Sarah Curci, Amartya Das, Abigail Daum, Nathan Decety, Jason Deng, Moira Differding, Jordan Einhorn, Nora Engel-Hall, Mariel Epner, Shira Fishbach, Erica Frank, Kira Fujibayashi, Jessica Gimpel, Natalia Ginsburg, Steven Glick, Stefania Gomez.

Charlotte Green, Nathaniel Green, Alexa Greene, Adelaide Grosse, Runshi Gu, Lane Gunderman, Amol Gundeti, Maya Hansen, Audrey Hart, Daniel Klonowski, Gabriel Knight, Beverly Lau, Rolland Long, Kaiwen Luan, Sean Magill.

Amelia Mazzarella, Bernard McDevitt, Ben Meyer, Caroline Montag, Maxine Nesbutt, Siobhan O’Muircheartaigh, Jack Olson, Joey Peng, Patricia Perozo, Emma Polson, Eric Pryor, Aleeze Quadir, Eleanor Reddy, Hanna Resnick.

Ryan Selig, Angira Shirahatti, Lili Steffen, Margaret Sullivan, Jaime Toepp, Hannah Tomio, David Tong, Duncan Weinstein, Shuodan Zhang, Yanning Zhang, Catherine Zhou, Gloria Zingales.

■ **GREEN CUP CHALLENGE**—The Green Cup energy reduction campaign ended February 13 but the results won’t be known until next month, said Phys Ed and Athletic Coordinator Gail Poole, the faculty adviser.

“In the Green Team’s campaign to raise awareness of our impact on the earth, students expressed their ideas for reducing their individual carbon footprint on easels placed in the U-High, Blaine and Judd lobbies,” Ms. Poole said.

Green Team members also spoke at faculty meetings and during lunch Thursday, February 28 in 311, Craig

Schuttenberg, and senior Jeremy Archer will speak about alternative strategies to reduce individual impact on the environment.

■ **DIRECTOR LEAVING NEXT YEAR**—The 2013-2014 school year will begin with the opening of the new Early Childhood Center on Stony Island Avenue and end with the departure of the man who guided the school’s plans for that facility and a new Arts Wing for which construction will start soon, Lab Schools Director David Magill.

Mr. Magill announced January 16 that he will complete 11 years as Director June 30, 2014.

The fundraising campaign he oversaw is expected by that time to have raised more than \$55 to finance the Early Childhood Center, named in honor of U-High graduate and generous Lab Schools supporter the late Earl Shapiro; a new arts building which replace Belfield Hall (see stories in centerspread this issue), though retaining its historic towers; renovation of Blaine Hall; and numerous other projects.

“I am particularly pleased,” Mr. Magill wrote in announcing his planned retirement, “with the outstanding progress that the Schools have made with our understanding of learning differences, including the addition of supports in order to maintain Lab’s rigorous educational program.”

During his tenure, Mr. Magill became known as a tireless traveler, keeping in contact with alumni and encouraging them, parents and friends of the Schools to join in giving to make the school’s expansion and renewal projects possible.

Mrs. Magill, Judy, also became well-known for her involvement in Lab Schools life and projects, the latest being this year’s Connections benefit.

■ **CERTA-FIED**—Placing 3rd place at the Novice level, four freshmen became U-High’s first representatives at the Certamen competition for students in Latin and Greek February 6 at St. Ignatius. They were Theodore Ando, Jacob Meyer, Harry Ni and Logan Young. “Certamen” in Latin means “competition.”

■ **ARTISTS, WRITERS WIN**—U-Highers wiped up in the prestigious Midwest Regional Alliance for Young Artist and Writers 90th anniversary competition this year.

Gold Key winners advance to national competition for prizes including scholarships.

The U-High winners in art are as follows:

■ **GOLD KEY**—Eric Pryor, overall portfolio, mixed media; Maria Gilfoyle, fashion design; Emily Hsee, painting; Emily Xio, drawing (three), painting; McKenzie Zimmerman, photography.

■ **SILVER KEY**—Eric Pryor, printmaking, mixed media; Emily Hsee, painting (two); Ealonor Schuttenberg, painting; McKenzie Zimmerman, photography (two).

■ **HONORABLE MENTION**—Edward Freeman, painting; Maria Gilfoyle, fashion design; Emily Hsee, painting; Liv Rhodes, photography, painting, ceramics; McKenzie Zimmerman, photography; Ellen Ma, painting.

Winners in writing are as follows: ■ **GOLD KEY**—Marissa Page, flash fiction; Stefania Gomez.

■ **HONORED**—Photography teacher Liese Rickett’s recent work will be featured in the April edition of Rangefinder Magazine, which has more than 50,000 subscribers internationally. It is a respected publication for professional photographers.

■ **FAR AWAY PLACES**—Up to 28 Lab Schoolers from grades 8-11 will be experiencing a service learning adventure this summer to Ghana, West Africa, being cosponsored by the Summer Lab program and Amizade Global Service Learning.

The 12-day trip, scheduled to begin August 3, will be led by Middle School librarian Jamelle St. Clair and High School librarian Susan Augustine.

Ms. Augustine is a world traveler and Ms. St. Clair has made a previous trip to Sub-Saharan Africa.

Amizade volunteers live in the villa of Jukwa, about 20 miles north of Cape Coast and will participate in completing a new public library for the community.

They will experience African drumming and dancing and visit a rain forest and historic locations.

Applications are available at <http://summerlab.org> and information is available from the librarians.

New Mission Statement

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process, Marissa interviewed students across all grade levels to attain a consensus on the student body’s opinion on the current statement.

Students had the least representation in the mission statement committee, she pointed out.

“I was the only student involved in this, although I interviewed kids that are in the 1st, 4th and 7th grades, as well as one student from each level of the High School, and compiled their comments into a long manifesto-type document that I read aloud at our first meeting,” Marissa said.

“The teacher, parent and administrator components were definitely the largest.

“Teachers were really important in the first meeting, and at the second meeting, the administrators’ input took precedence.

“Also, even though I spoke for a while at the first meeting, at the second meeting the student input wasn’t really present as much.”

Marissa became involved at the request of her adviser, Mr. Lopez.

quest of her adviser, Mr. Lopez.

“He broached the subject with us one day in advisory and asked our opinion on the current mission statement,” she said.

“I made a few comments, and a few days later he pulled me aside, said he appreciated my feedback and asked if I’d like to join a committee of teachers, parents, alumni and administrators in writing the new mission statement draft.”

Suitably suited up for a'Suits'- themed Dance



Photo by Fiona Potter
Conversing on the sidelines, Delana Penn, in a zebra print dress from Forever 21, gathers with Sheridan Small and Akilah Harris. "It caught my eye because it was such a bright red," Sheridan said. "I really like the lace detail on the top and the unique straps. And it had pleats, which I love!"



Photo by Emma Polson
Simple but stylish, Akili King and Sophia Gatton flashed peace signs while they danced in plain shirts and a cute skirts.



Photo by Fiona Potter
In a creme dress with lace overlay complimenting peach flats, Alex Soto Salas, left, jammed to the music with Ashley Mahome, in a bright pink dress, and Emma Lichter.



Photo by Fiona Potter
Casual boots paired with knitted tights and a slim-fit black dress with cut-out sleeves, borrowed from her older sister, completed Miranda Scarlata's outfit for the "Suits"-themed Semiformal Dance, February 6 in at Internationa; House. Taking a break from dancing in the crowd of about 200 students, Leah Rosenzweig, chic in a pink dress and gold belt from Forever 21 chats with Miranda.



Photo by Fiona Potter
"Locked out of Heaven" by Bruno Mars played through DJ Jamal Smallz's speakers while seniors Aleezé Qadir, back left; Gloria Zingales, in American Apparel disco pants and a blue crop-top; Katie Rosengarten; Emma Polson and Maya Blackstone formed a circle to enjoy possibly their last U-High dance.

Behavior improves, attendance drops

By Hebah Masood
Associate editor

Though most U-Highers attending the Semiformal Dance, Saturday February 6 at International House wore brightly colored dresses and button downs— in line with a "Suits" theme, based off the TV show—relatively few attended, compared to past dances.

With about 30 students in Boston for Model U.N, about 200 students came to the dance, about 50 fewer than normal, according to Dean of Students Larry McFarlane.

WHILE MR. MCFARLANE doubts a Spring dance will occur, he isn't worried about attendance if there is one.

"Dances are only in place to provide students a place and time to gather and have a good time in a safe environment," Mr. McFarlane said. "I think if we have another dance the people that want to come will come, same as always."

Attendance also may have proven low because of scare publicity. Though signs hung around school, many U-Highers said they were unaware of the dance.

"The dance was not publicized well," said Mr. McFarlane. "Student Council kind of dragged their feet on that. We encouraged people to pay \$10 beforehand, saying that they would be charged \$15 at the door, as an incentive to go, and so we don't have a long line at the door because it was cold. We ended up just letting people pay the \$10 because not enough people pre-bought tickets."

THOUGH NOT AS many students showed up as expected, on the plus side problematic student behavior such as inappropriate dancing was scarce.

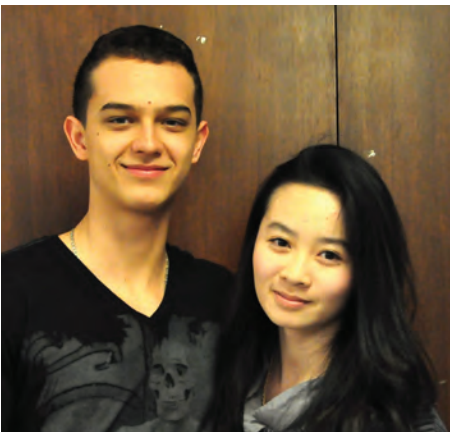
"Dress was fine," Mr. McFarlane said. "Everyone stuck to the dress code. As far as I could tell, everyone was enjoying themselves without any outside influences. There were no incidents at the dance."



Photo by Emma Polson
Sequins sparkle in Rachel Buikemea and Molly Rosenzweig's contrasting black and silver dresses. "I liked the mix of sequins and tinsel," Molly said of her Akira dress.

Royalty

Royalty photos by Lili Steffen



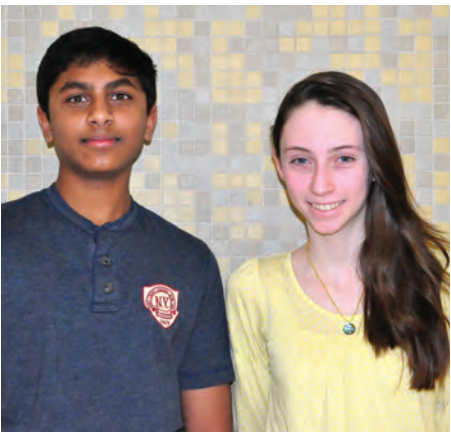
SENIORS
Justin Wanzung
Thanh Hien Ngo



JUNIORS
Lillian Eckstein
Mohammed Munim



SOPHOMORES
Storm Taft
Jen Chien



FRESHMEN
Venkat Somala
Lucy Kenig-Ziesler