



Straight from the mouth of Arne Duncan

Secretary of Education talks about how he sees the Common Core

By Sonia Bourdagh
Editor-in-Chief

Three comfortable-looking maroon arm chairs were set up on the stage of International House Thursday October 24, as the crowd waited for the night's discussion on the Common Core.

After a brief introduction and reminder of the University of Chicago's civil discourse rules, United States Secretary of Education and former CEO of Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Arne Duncan, in a dark suit and red tie, entered the stage with moderator Tim Knowles, John Dewey Director of the Urban Education Institute.

CALLED BY many the biggest revolution in education history in years, the Common Core State Standards offer a "clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them," according to their official website. So far adopted by 45 states, the standards were implemented in Illinois this year.

Throughout the evening Mr. Duncan, a graduate of U-High's Class of 1982 and the Lab Schools Hall of Fame, repeated the importance of "raising the bar" for students.

"In far too many states, and frankly I think not insignificantly because of No Child Left Behind, you had about 20 states actually dummy down standards to make politicians look good," he explained.

"SO WE WERE telling kids they were on track to be successful we were actually lying to them, lying to their families, to me it's one of the most insidious things that's happened in education."

Later in the session, Mr. Duncan addressed concerns about increased assessment tests required of students.

"People tend to forget but actually when I was here in CPS, we cut out about 50 percent of the testing," Mr. Duncan said. "We were taking the state test, and we were taking the Iowa test, I couldn't figure out why our kids in Chicago were taking the Iowa test. So we eliminated that.



Photo by Monica Valenzuela

Seated on stage with Moderator Tim Knowles (center stage) and Rick Hesse (left on stage), United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, right, discussed the Common Core at the International House October 24.

"BUT TO SAY there should be no assessment, candidly I don't agree with that either. I think we can absolutely over test, I think there has been probably too much testing in many, many places, but at the end of the day I think we all want to know, are our children learning each year?"

After the panel, Mr. Duncan joined reporters for a media interview.

"I promise you," he said, "there will be rocky times, there will be bumps in the road, there will be mistakes made, but three years ago, four years ago, no one, no one in this country could have predicted that this was possible...that the states would raise standards."

THE STANDARDS have received much criticism, however, as seen by the claps and cheers awarded Frederick Hess, Director of Education Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute as he criticized the Common Core after joining Mr. Duncan and Mr. Knowles on stage.

"What happened was 40 odd states signed up for this stuff without anybody having any idea what was going on, what it amounted to, without public hearings or public debate. And so folks woke up in 2012 and started to hear about this thing," Mr. Hess said.

"And this is a huge problem because

Common Core is not self-executing."

Passing out literature opposing the Common Core outside of the International House, Julie Fain, member of More than a Score, is the mother of two CPS students in 1st and 5th grade.

"I THINK THAT the high stakes testing that we're seeing is a pretty direct byproduct of the Common Core," she explained. "We were seeing testing take a bigger role during No Child Left Behind—that predates the Common Core in the Bush era. Now under Obama we see Race to the Top where states compete for funding by adopting policies the administration wants to see, and the Common Core is one of them.

"It used to be you'd have these tests, and teachers and schools would get results and it would help them understand where each child was and help them understand on an individual level what to do to take the student to the next level.

"Now what tests represent is much bigger than just the child. Now it represents a judgment on the teacher, the school and the district. I think it has a terrible effect on what gets taught and what gets emphasized on a school level."

AFTER PASSING out pamphlets, Ms. Fain attended the panel.

"I guess it was a little discouraging not

to see anything new or any conversation that was any different than what we heard before," Ms. Fain said. "I saw him create something I would consider a straw man where he says that anyone who doesn't agree is in essence in favor of the status quo.

"I really reject that because I feel that there is a lot that schools can do better, and just because people don't agree with his idea doesn't mean we reject the idea that there isn't anything we can do to help at all."

ALSO ATTENDING the panel, History Paul Horton, an outspoken critic of the Common Core, said he felt the event was constructed to favor Secretary Duncan.

"I call it a pseudo-event because it was very carefully staged," Mr. Horton explained. "First of all it was held at a time when people from other areas of Chicago and teachers couldn't get there, and there's no parking. They said they had to get there by 3:45p.m. or their seats would be given away. People who would be critical couldn't be there. They could have held it later if they had wanted a real forum.

"He says the Common Core standards were written by teachers, parents and administrators but the common core was almost exclusively written by the Educational Testing Service. Everything he said I could check off point by point that he's just blowing smoke."

WHEN ASKED about the Common Core, Lab Schools Director David Magill said his main concern was making sure Lab Schools students aren't disadvantaged by the new standards.

"Well you know, I'm not as critical of the common core as some other people," Mr. Magill explained. "At this point, the standards don't affect us in terms of what we teach. The most concerning thing to me is my understanding that the future SATs, taken by many of our college bound high school students, will change to fit the standards.

"Schools like ours that haven't had to subscribe to the Common Core but teach what we believe is the best preparation for higher education may be inadvertently penalized when taking the SAT. It behooves our school, to have a good understanding of what is included in these standards. This should be a conversation at each of our Schools."

As turkey day nears, U-Highers seek chances to get away, give back

By Raghu Somala
Associate editor

For the second consecutive Thanksgiving break, junior Michael Horio will travel to Cancun, Mexico, with his father, mother and sister, looking forward to zip line rides in a tropical forest and soccer games on the beach.

As Thanksgiving approaches, U-Highers plan vacations, charity drives sponsored by the Spectrum club and Muslim Students Association, and the People of Color and Student Diversity Leadership conferences.

"I didn't really know what to expect, besides just relaxing on the beach," Michael said. "A couple hours after we checked into our hotel, we went to the beaches where local school kids were playing beach soccer. It was some of the best soccer I had ever seen, because unlike most soccer games I play in America, it was for fun, not a competition."

Last year's highlights also included zip lining, which Michael hopes to repeat.

"It was really hot at the site and there was a 200 foot long zip line about 100 feet above the ground," he said. "The first step was the scariest, because once I stepped off, the zip line bounced making me feel like I was falling

off. But once it evened out, I just enjoyed the cool breeze blowing into my face in the 95-degree weather. Below, everything was green, and I actually heard the birds chirping, almost like I was walking through a tropical forest."

English Teacher Colin Rennert-May plans to continue a 30-year tradition of visiting his grandmother for Thanksgiving. Mr. Rennert-May will fly to Newark Wednesday, November 27th, then take a train to Paramus, New Jersey where his grandmother lives.

"I have been visiting my granny since the beginning of high school," Mr. Rennert-May said. "When I was young, going to granny's house was mostly for the usual kids' stuff, but nowadays I want to spend as much time with her as possible. She is 89 after all, and has been a part of my life since high school. None of my family members can forget her two life philosophies: 'It could be worse' and 'It's just money.'"

Juniors Della Brown and Wyatt Dandy look forward to continuing their golf cart wars from last year in New Harmony, Indiana, where they will also enjoy Thanksgiving with their families. Della's parents are not only Wyatt's god parents but are also close family



Photo by Fiona Potter

Lower School parents and the U-High Muslim Student's Association (MSA) hosted the fourth annual Eid Dinner celebrating the Muslim holiday in Earl Shapiro Hall October 23. Leading up to the event, MSA organized a pre-Thanksgiving canned food drive.

friends with his family.

"New Harmony is quite different from Chicago," Wyatt said. "The town is mostly filled with old people, so it's very quiet and peaceful. If I were alone for more than a couple of hours, I would probably die of boredom, but luckily Della and the rest of the Browns keep me company."

(continues on page 5)



Photo by Della Brown

Phys Ed teacher Joyce Grotthus set the ball into the air while warming up for the students-versus-faculty volleyball game Thursday October 10 as a part of Spirit Week. Faculty athletes, going clockwise, included Director of Educational Studies Jason Lo-

pez, Computer Science teacher Baker Franke, History teacher Charles Disantis, Community Service Coordinator Hannah Evans, Dean of Students Ana Campos, Principal Scott Fech, and Phys Ed teacher Dan Dyra. Students loved the game, cheering loudly.

Volleyball game energizes crowd at Spirit assembly

By Elena Maestripieri
Associate editor

Roaring cheers filled Upper Kovler Gymnasium at the students-versus-faculty volleyball game, Thursday October 10, which proved a highlight of Spirit Week sponsored by Student Council and Cultural Union.

Colorful advisory banners were raised in the air, as counselors Ronald Tunis, Camille Baughn-Cunningham, and Tracy Graham rated the banners. The banner contest was a part of the ongoing Advisory Cup competition, an initiative to promote school spirit before the Homecoming Dance October 12.

"This is the first time U-High's ever done something like this," Ms. Graham said. "We judged each sign based on effort and creativity, but it was hard because there were so many colorful, funny and beautiful banners that it was really hard for Mr. Tunis, Ms. Baughn-Cunningham and me to decide."

As the judges finished viewing all of the signs, the volleyball game began.

"One thing about the game I really liked was how players from the girls' volleyball team worked as the referees," Ms. Graham said. "I will say I wish there were more girls playing! Also I think there hasn't been a year when the teachers have actually won a volleyball game against the students, so that's definitely what I'm looking forward to next year!"

Students dressed according to daily themes during the week. In addition to those in the photos were "Throwback Thursday" and Friday's "Grade Color Day."



Photo by Daisee Toledo

Instead of dressing up for "Twin Day," volleyball team members loaned out their pink shirts in honor of their Dig Pink game that evening. Junior Ivana Jurera pinned the breast cancer ribbon to junior Jordan Moran in the cafeteria before the game.



Photo by Stacy Stern

Clad in plaid, seniors Stephanie Luo and Daisee Toledo went for a more casual look on "Twin Day," after planning out their outfits the night before. "Since it was so last minute, we picked out simple things like a white V-neck, brown boots and jeans," Daisee said.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Boasting a jacket and bowtie, senior Bolu Johnson, was among the many U-Highers who dressed up for "Formal Day," Monday October 7. "This is senior year for me, so I went all out with school spirit," Bolu said. "If I could I'd get dressed up everyday!"

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Photo by Aurielle Akerele

Chatting with manager, Kelly Hayward, Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest and Tiffany Suwathee, sophomores, inquired about some of Medici's lunch options.



Photo by Della Brown
On Tuesday's "Jungle Day," freshman Simone Einhorn sported a full-face pink and black cat mask.



Photo by Stacy Stern

Leopard print, painted whiskers, and cat ears were a popular combination on Tuesday's "Jungle Day." Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow, left, and Rachel Conley, seniors displayed their spirit with matching cat whiskers.



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Model U.N. makes debut in Emory meet in Atlanta

By Christine Obert-Hong
Associate Editor

For the first time, 37 U-High Model UN delegates participated in the Southern United States MUN conference (SUSMUN), at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, last weekend, after the Midway went to press.

The U-High team represented the United Kingdom, Portugal, Tanzania, Slovenia, and Yemen. The 37 delegates, 21 returning and 16 rookies, had been preparing for about a month in advance.

BEFORE THE CONFERENCE, junior Eriko Koide, junior director of novice preparations, said, "We spent a lot of time focusing on teaching the new delegates skills that are necessary for MUN, things like giving speeches of various time lengths and how to research for a country's policy."

"Otherwise, we continued to work on improving our skills through speaking practice and small exercises that simulated in-committee experiences."

Before heading for Atlanta, the U-Highers sponsored the first Lab School MUN Conference (LabMUNC) September 21.

SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING included Latin and Parker, U-High's longtime North Side associates; Lyons Township in LaGrange and Countryside, and Edison Elementary Regional Gifted Center, a Chicago public school.

U-High delegates participated in all committees, including Special Political and Decolonization (SPECPOL), the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

(CSTD), and the Council of Ministers of Colombia.

"As for LabMUNC, our rookies prepared in a similar way we prepare for most conferences," said junior Kennedy Thomas, also junior director of novice preparations and MUN's secretary, "Except, because most of them were new to MUN, we went a little slower, explaining all of the main concepts, putting a special emphasis on the basics to ensure they had a strong foundation."

"Our team usually attends conferences on the east coast or in the Midwest, so it will be interesting to compete with a new group of schools and experience the southern style of Model UN."

MUN's board also includes seniors Rahul Mehta, president and senior director of delegate preparations; Matthew Davis, vice president and senior director of novice preparations; and Lillian Eckstein, vice president and general manager; juniors Apoorva Gundeti, junior director of novice preparations; and Alijah Futterman, treasurer, are also on the board.

Faculty advisers for MUN are Learning Coordinator Lesley Scott and Early World History and AT Economics teacher Charles Disantis.

Upcoming meets are as follows:

Princeton, December 5-8, East Brunswick, New Jersey; Harvard, January 30-February 2, Boston; Northwestern University, April 10-13, northwest suburban Evanston, and Cornell, April 20-23, Ithaca, New York.



Photo by Fiona Potter

Welcome visitors

Greetings from teachers including Mirentxu Ganzarain, art, proved a highlight of Recruitment Open House Sunday, October 20, according to Director of Admissions Irene Reed. With an estimated 450 to 475 visitors, more than expected, the school bustled Sunday night with prospective students and their families going on student-led tours and listening to speeches about U-High's community from teachers of every department, as well as administrators including Principal Scott Fech. An impressive buffet in the cafeteria featured gourmet sandwiches.

Expert to detail importance of determination in success

Dr. Angela Lee Duckworth, an associate professor in psychology in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania, will speak on "The Importance of Grit in Education and Life Success" in a program sponsored by the Parents' Association 7 p.m., Monday, November 11 at Earl Shapiro Hall. U-High parents are invited to bring U-Highers.

Dr. Duckworth's research has focused on the importance of sustaining interest and effort toward longterm goals.

She had taught math to 7th graders in the New York City public schools, where she concluded that intelligence and talent weren't the only factors in success, but determination and self-control figured importantly as indicators of success.



Ms. Duckworth

Her studies have involved students in Chicago public schools.

Dr. Duckworth is among recipients of 2013 MacArthur Foundation grants. She will receive \$625,000 over five years in recognition of "exceptional originality in and dedication to creative pursuits."

Science teacher joins in effort to enrich programs nationally

By Raghu Somala
Associate editor

Science Teacher Sharon Housinger helped develop better science programs for teachers across the country at a conference October 11-13 in Washington D.C. along with nine of the top science teachers in the country.

The Society for Science and the Public, which also sponsors the Intel Science Competition, sponsored the conference to learn about the top high school science programs in the nation.

"Apparently we were chosen because we were considered the 'League of Extraordinary Gentlemen' when it came to teaching and advising students for science competitions," Mrs. Housinger said with a laugh.



Ms. Housinger

"The day began with each teacher giving everyone a look at their own teaching, school, and research program through a five to eight minute presentation. After a short break, we went through the specific challenges in applying for the Intel Science Competition such as dealing with different resources available to students."

"That program took place mostly to help other school teachers develop their science programs and help their students excel in science," she added. "As teachers at a prestigious school like U-High, it is our obligation to the community to help other students pursue their scientific interest."

After the presentations and lunch, the teachers headed over to the National Geographic Museum. Although that visit proved more of a learning experience for other teachers who had never visited the Museum, Mrs. Housinger does recall something she observed about the Intel directors.

"Through my experience of helping students through the Intel Competition, I had always thought the Intel directors were these corporate, mean, strict people who were emotionless. However, when we got there, we were met with two kind women with sweet faces and calming voices. They weren't really the mean, corporate people I expected them to be," Mrs. Housinger said.

Class of 2017 elects freshman year officers

Matthew Ferraro has been elected president of the freshman class following candidate speeches and student voting. Alex Azar is vice president and Taylor Thompson and Katherine Zhang are the Cultural Union representatives.

Debate team returns from large meet at University of Michigan

By Christine Obert-Hong
Associate editor

In their third tournament, U-High's Debate team traveled last weekend to University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, returning after Midway deadline.

In the varsity division of the tournament, four of U-High's teams competed with 165 teams from all across the nation. The topic for all high school tournaments this school year is "Resolved: Should the United States federal government increase its economic engagement towards Cuba, Mexico, and/or Venezuela."

At the second tournament, at New Trier High School in north suburban Winnetka, October 11-13, Senior Alice Yu placed 19th speaker out of 154 and was the only U-High student to get a speaker award.

Of the debate teams at New Trier, junior Luke Newell and Alice advanced past preliminaries to double finals, with four wins and two losses. Seniors James Duran and Sam Leiter won three rounds and lost three. Senior Sam Kaplan and sophomore Robert Bacon won two rounds, while sophomores Alina Cui and Reed

Rosenbacher won one round.

"The team did very well last year." Alice commented, "The senior, Mia Gil Epner, cleared at nearly every tournament, got several top speaker awards and qualified for the second year to the Tournament of Champions. Luke and I bid once to the tournament of champions, while the other then-juniors had positive win records."

"We generally practice two to three times a week after school for two and a half hours. The preparation we do depends on the tournament we're going to. For example, if it's a smaller tournament with 50 to 60 teams, we'll individually scout each of the teams to figure out what arguments they make."

This year debate has 10 upperclassmen and about 10 lowerclassmen. The five seniors, Alice, James, Sam L., Sam K., and Lily Zhao, are the team's cocaptains this year.

Two University of Chicago freshmen, Jon Sussman and Christian Palacios, are serving as advisers. Mr. Sussman's major is Pre-medicine and Mr. Palacios' is Political Science.

Next tournament is in Glenbrook, November 22-25.

Last year's Midway gets two top ratings

Two highly-respected national high school press associations have awarded last year's issues of the U-High Midway their highest rating for overall excellence.

The National Scholastic Press Association headquartered at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis gave the Midway its All American award for the 48th consecutive year.

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association awarded the paper its Gold Medalist rating. The Midway won its first Medalist, the name of the award then, about the time it won its first All American.

In addition to the All American rating, NSPA gave the Midway Marks of Distinction for superior achievement in Coverage and Content, Writing and Editing, Layout and Design, and Leadership.

To achieve the All American, a paper was required to receive four Marks of Distinction and score at least 3,200 points in the judging scorebook. The Midway earned 3,635.

Praising the paper's photography, the judges also encouraged more use of art and graphics.

As usual, the judges complained about the amount of type in the Midway.

"We are one school where our readers really

read the paper and expect depth stories," said senior Marissa Page, one of this year's editors-in-chief. "We generally don't cut stories to make them fit in a certain space, as other papers do, and will continue to run longer stories than many papers do."

Last year's editors-in-chief were Sonia Bourdaghs, also an editor-in-chief this year; Duncan Weinstein; Rolland Long; and William Chung.

In the Columbia ratings service, the Midway needed 800 points of 1,000 possible for the Gold Medalist rating and earned 831 in the scorebook.

The Columbia judges recommended more large photos in the Midway, a point this year's editors have been pursuing, and praised the Midway's design and use of color. They also praised the cartoons by junior Lydia Fama.

"Congratulations on receiving Gold Medal status!," the judges' summary comments read. "It is a well-deserved honor for a fine publication. You are part of a terrific school and a stellar journalism program."

Judges from both associations said that through the Midway they felt they had been welcomed to, and visited, an excellent school.

A delicious, musical, artsy community

Eclectic Wicker Park offers hipster paradise

Story by Clay Surmeier, City Life editor
Photos by Aurielle Akerele

The doors hiss open at the Damen Avenue Blue Line stop, winds stripping away any remaining heat from the train car on a Friday afternoon in October. The sound of a street musician's trumpet transcends the bustle of artists and hipsters wrapped in plaid scarves and obscure indie band merchandise parading through the boutique-laden blocks of the northwest neighborhood Wicker Park.

Construction of the Kennedy Expressway in the 1960s diversified the previously all-Polish community, giving many Latinos from Old Town and Lincoln Park an opportunity to move in. During the 1960s the largest Latino gang at the time, the Latin Kings, called Wicker Park home. Through community development groups such as the Northwest Community Organization, which aided Wicker Park by providing new affordable-housing, the neighborhood gradually became safer.

SLOWLY, THE NEIGHBORHOOD began to draw artists intrigued by its easy access to downtown Chicago and cheap housing. Located northwest of the Loop, Wicker Park is adjacent to the Damen train stop or off the I-90/94 at the Damen exit.

"Pizza. Beer. Football. Sex. *Three out of four isn't bad.*"

One of many playful advertising campaigns plastered on Wicker Park storefronts, neighborhood favorite Piece Pizza and Brewery also sells "Piece Out" t-shirts alongside an assortment of award-winning hand crafted brews from their seven barrel brew-house. Located at 1927 West North Avenue, Piece also serves everything from classic red sauce to mashed potato pizzas.

A local hangout for sports fanatics and foodies alike, Piece offers a fun football night out, playing both NFL and college ball regularly. Stop by on Saturdays at 11 p.m. for a live karaoke band or if you can't, they deliver.

BIG STAR, 1531 North Damen Avenue, serves a diverse array of dishes inspired by Mexican street food. Created by executive chef Paul Kahan and chef de cuisine Craig Svolzil, the restaurant's food and drink programs constantly change to fit the seasons. Junior Benny Friedman snagged a highly coveted table last month.

"It can be hard to get a place to sit here because they don't take reservations and only accept cash," Benny explained. "Their simple menu of mix-and-match tacos doesn't make the choice any easier, everything there is good. Personally, being a meat lover, I think I like the Taco Al Pastor the best.

"I obviously can't try their renowned alcoholic beverages but their limeade is killer. Even if you can't make it to the restaurant, try tracking one of their food trucks that drives around Chicago."

NAMED AFTER A STREET on the southeast side of Chicago, Avenue N Guitars is located at 1823 West North Avenue. Founded by Chicago-based musicians, the store sells guitars and doubles as a music school and repair shop. One such founder and musician, Tim Burns, recalls the passion for music that drove him



After enjoying a Maple Bacon Long John at Glazed and Infused Bakery, 1576 North Milwaukee Avenue, Clay Surmeier pauses to listen to one of the many performers playing around Wicker Park.

to this business.

"I love all kinds of music," Mr. Burns said. "I grew up listening to Three Bs, Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig von Beethoven and Johannes Brahms, and Patsy Cline. I listen to lots of '60s and '70s classic rock and have played in everything from a country to a heavy metal band. If I had to pick a favorite genre though, it would be jazz.

"I started the business because we were tired of working with other people. There was no real 'music store' in Wicker Park. There were these things called musical rounds that were essentially stores that took secondhand music equipment and resold it. My partners and I had experience in the vintage business but wanted to do something different here. We really wanted to embrace this community of artists and musicians, giving them a store that provides quality service centered on instruments.

"THERE ARE QUITE a few clubs around here so we get traveling performers who heard that this was the place to go in town for repairs, everything from a string replacement to total restoration.

"We also teach here. We have a lot of talented, young musicians with music degrees who teach guitar, bass and piano. I like to think of our business as three-pronged; business, repairing and teaching."

Established in 2009 by Chicago artist Laura Junge and partner Chris Jackson, Jackson Junge Gallery, 1389 North Milwaukee Avenue, showcases Junge's work as well as work from other contemporary artists. Guest artist exhibits are also hosted throughout the year.

Working at the desk, University of Chicago student Lindsey Fleishen points out the newest exhibit, Wicker Park After Dark, a photography exhibit by David Szpunar that premiered September 20.

"I've been here a couple months, and really like the area," Lindsey said. "I came here from Kentucky for school, at the University of Chicago, and saw

that this place was hiring and went for it.

"I really like art in general and once I got to know the area a little bit, I knew I would like working here. There's an arcade bar across the street, which is a really fun place to hang out with friends. There are lots of other hole-in-the-wall bars and restaurants that I also enjoy."

DOWN THE STREET at 1342 North Milwaukee Avenue, Mildblend offers fine clothing, shoes and grooming products. In the front right corner of the rustic and recycled designed building, Luke Cho repairs jeans at his work station.

"I use a normal stitching rig as well as a chain stitch, which is very rare nowadays," Luke said while ironing a pair of newly hemmed jeans. "It's what manually does the stitching on the cuffs of jeans. I used to have my own factory; I've been working with jeans for over 20 years. Here I do repairs and hemming."

A sales associate, Daemon, walks around the store adjusting displays and refolding rumpled clothing.

"I'VE WORKED HERE for a few months and previously worked at another store down the street selling clothes as well, so I've been working in Wicker Park for about a year," he said as a coworker playfully tossed him another pair of jeans to fold.

"I really like working here because I have complete confidence in the quality of what I'm selling. Sure, it's going to cost more, but it's also going to last a lot longer than some cheap stuff."

A Wicker Park native, Daemon reflected on the changes he's witnessed in his neighborhood.

"I LIVED AROUND HERE when I was a kid so I've really gotten to see this change that everyone talks about firsthand. I think the change actually came in three parts.

"First it was a rough neighborhood, then an artsy, young, hip hangout and now it's transitioned a sort of family-friendly atmosphere. You never used to see a yuppie couple walking down the street."



Flipping through some of Laura Junge's artwork at the Jackson Junge Gallery, 1389 North Milwaukee Avenue, French exchange student Clément Eriteau also admires one of the gallery's current photography exhibit "Wicker Park After Dark" by David Szpunar.



Eager to check out Wicker Park's famed delicious eats, Benny Friedman, left, Clay Surmeier, Luke Murphy and French exchange students Clément Eriteau and Quentin Hurinville order mashed potato and red sauce pizzas at Piece Pizza and Brewery, 1927 West North Avenue.

Dolor Sit Amet.....by Lydia Fama



Whiz kid designer excels in school and out

By Hebah Masood
Editor-in-Chief

"I was standing on the same stage Steve Jobs had stood on for the past 30 years. I used to watch the Apple special events online, but this was different. I was actually there in the auditorium. I was filled with excitement and enjoyment, but at the same time there was a sense that I had gone full circle."

Senior Louis Harboe reminisced after accepting his Apple Design Award at the Worldwide Developer's Conference in front of 5,000 attendees in San Francisco last June. Louis was one of three students who won an award out of 100 chosen for a scholarship to the conference. At age 12, Louis designed an app built by current U-High senior Sam Kaplan. Features on Louis and Sam were in the Chicago-Sun Times, WGN News and CNBC.

KNOWN FOR HIS web and app design, Louis was offered a job at Square, a company in San Francisco that created an app allowing customers to swipe their credit cards on phones, and has worked there for the past two summers.

A Square employee who knew Louis through Twitter asked if he wanted an internship for the summer. Usually dressed casually and recognized by the tight curls framing his head, Louis, the son of two architects, also designs for U-Highlights.

While working in San Francisco, Louis' expenses were paid for by Square.

"MY FIRST WEEK at Square I designed concepts for the various ways Square could partner with Starbucks," Louis said. "Several of the concepts got pitched to the Starbucks CEO and Starbucks and Square formed a partnership a few weeks later. That was just my first week.

"These past two summers at Square I didn't just learn about design, though. I also learned about programming, web development, and even went to several

commercial shoots. I realized that working for a company like this is what I really want to do.

"That being said, my parents are very supportive. They know design and technology are fields that I'm really passionate about so they won't throw a fit if I forget to analyze my Shakespeare reading one night. I don't know if they 'inspired' me but it definitely helps to know they're on my side of things.

"THERE ARE SOMETIMES days when I have designer's block and I can't think of what I want to do. I can picture something in my head but for some reason I can't produce it in front of me. It's times like that when my parents, being architects, can understand where I'm coming from."

Louis' mother, Catherine Becker, Class of 1974, said Louis grew up in a very artistic environment.

"We renovated our home and thought a lot about design. We also always made our own Halloween costumes, so Louis grew up always seeing us drawing and thinking about how things looked. When he was really young he started drawing floor plans for houses, so we really just encouraged that kind of energy.

"I THINK IT'S great that he found his passion at such a young age. He's really always been interested in this kind of stuff. In 4th grade he would draw and then translate his drawings onto his computer. He's been recruited to do design work ever since he was 14. People would contact him not knowing his age, and were of course surprised when they did find out his age. He's not doing it to make money, he's doing it because he loves it."

Last year, U-Highlights editor Kassim Husain, now a senior, approached Louis and asked him if he would be interested in helping design the yearbook. The editors-in-chief then talked with Louis about seeking a fresh design for 2013.

"After I agreed to help them work on the yearbook I went in to look at how



Photo by Daisee Toledo

Examining a prototype spread for the 2014 U-Highlights, Louis Harboe and Sabrina Holland work on design in the yearbook. Louis is design consultant and Sabrina an editor-in-chief. Louis was approached by members of the yearbook staff last year because he is known throughout the school for his design talents and accomplishments.

it looked and saw a lot of things I could work with," Louis said.

"I SAW A LOT of inconsistencies, so I went through and made some rules so the headlines and font had a sense of uniformity. Because I worked at Square I was familiar with a lot of other fonts and design techniques that I brought in and told the yearbook staff about. For example we started to use bigger pictures this year so that the photos are the focus of most of the pages. I wanted

the yearbook to be like an expensive book and something that you hold on to, not a magazine or brochure.

"Working on the yearbook is really different from working at other jobs. During the summer I'm used to working with old, talented, paid, professionals. They are the ones teaching me. But when I'm explaining design stuff to the yearbook staff I feel like a teacher, taking everything I've learned over the years and passing it down to everyone at Lab."

Thanksgiving travels

(continued from front page)

Della recalled their time riding through New Harmony on golf carts.

"We do some pretty crazy things, like last year, we rented golf carts and rode through the town," Della said. "At one point we got so bored that we raced through town, but that didn't go so well. Obviously, we are going to do the again."

STARTING AFTER Thanksgiving break, Spectrum will sponsor a canned food and clothing drive, donated to Halsted Center, the largest Lesbian Gay Transgender Bisexual Queer Asexual (LGTBQA) center.

"We'll have a miscellaneous items drive around the holidays—such as hats, scarves, shampoo, and other essentials that people normally forget about—and we donate those items to shelters in the Chicagoland area that accept, such as LGTBQA," Valentina said.

Muslim Students Association also ran a canned food drive in the weeks leading up to the annual Eid Dinner October 23. **ALSO AFTER THANKSGIVING**, from December 5 through 9, six U-Highers will attend the 20th annual Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC), and nine administrators and teachers will attend the 26th annual People of Color Conference (PoCC), in National Harbor, Maryland.

Talking about the theme, their school as a mosaic, attendees will discuss diversity beyond race, such as in ideas and religion. Students turned in questionnaires and

an essay relating to the theme and were chosen by Principal Scott Fech, Assistant Principal Asra Ahmed and Dean of Students Ana Campos.

ENCOURAGED BY her mother and junior Maryam Alausa, who attended the event freshman year, sophomore Fikayo Walker is attending the conference this year for the first time.

"I was hesitant at first because I thought it was only for juniors and seniors, but after talking to Maryam and learning that she attended during her freshman year I decided to look into it," Fikayo said.

"She said the stories she heard were some of the most moving and inspiring stories she had ever heard. I hope to learn more about how other minorities feel in their private schools. We have a tendency to relate to diversity with African Americans solely but diversity isn't just about race."

Others who are attending are as follows:

HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS—Associate Director of Educational Program Jason Lopez, High School Counselor Camille Baughn-Cunningham, and Assessment Specialist Christopher Harper.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS—Seniors Loren Sosnick and Jacquell Hamelin, juniors Jarett Lampley and James Zhang, and freshman Marissa Martinez.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR—Principal Carol Swainson.

LOWER SCHOOL—Assistant Director of Extended Day Candice Lawler, and Kindergarten Teacher Nisha Ruparel-Sen.



Photo by Wyatt Dandy

German students experience Chicago

On the morning of the of October 25, the students and one of their teachers from Germany met to prepare for their architectural tour "Skyscraper Walk through Time" in downtown Chicago.

Arriving October 11 for an exciting two weeks of walking tours, musicals, museums, a visit to the state capital of Springfield, and sitting in on U-High classes, 10 German exchange students returned home to Stuttgart, a city in southwest Germany, on October 27. The students, came as part of the government sponsored German American Partnership Program. U-High students went to Stuttgart from June 22 to July 13 during which the students went to Zürich, Switzerland for three days.

As the Midway sees it When it comes to school spirit, let it grow naturally

Student Council and Cultural Union officers publicized Spirit Week 2013 with bright and eye-catching flyers, even coming up with a social media hashtag (#uhighspirit) to create an incentive for participation.

Their efforts resulted in a moderately successful Spirit Week, as students across all grade levels participated in the theme days. Spirit Week culminated October 12 with a Homecoming soccer game on Jackman Field, and a Homecoming Dance in Upper Kovler Gymnasium.

BECAUSE OF AN entire host of problems occurring before and during the dance, a whole week's worth of excitement and pride was nearly diminished in one night. For the first time in recent memory students weren't forced off of the dance floor for staying past the designated end time, but instead chose to leave on their own accord hours before the dance concluded.

Without a doubt, the biggest problem with the Homecoming Dance was its location. Last Spring, Student Council and Cultural Union were informed the dance couldn't take place in International House because of scheduling issues. As it turned out, the Gym proved a festival of problems. There was a defective sound system, getting up decorations proved nearly impossible, and security emergency lights were kept on despite having been turned off for previous events.

Undeterred by the disappointment of the dance, U-Highers have demonstrated a tremendous amount of spirit in the past few weeks. Thanks to social media and word of mouth, student-initiated spirit events to celebrate the end of the Fall sports season brought out hundreds of U-Highers. Over 150 people attended the Regional Championship soccer game, on a Friday night no less, in spite of frosty temperatures and a limited amount of seating. When the game ended, most U-Highers marched up to Upper Kovler and cheered for the varsity volleyball team on their Senior Night.

ALL OF THESE events were organized on Facebook, where team captains Jeff Li and Gabrielle Rosenbacher created event pages for their respective sports. By inviting as many U-Highers as possible and relying on word-of-mouth, they brought out huge crowds. Principal Scott Fech, Assistant Principal Asra Ahmed, and Dean of Students Ana Campos, unfortunately, were never communicated with about the events and, understandably, weren't at the games. While some faculty showed up that Friday, it was mostly a time for students to show support for their fellow classmates.

If anything, the past few weeks have proven that U-Highers are hardly averse to school pride, as long as it's not contrived or inorganic.

It seems as if the only spirit initiatives that fall short are those headed by the adults, such as the "The Advisory Cup Challenge," which launched during Spirit Week but is expected to continue throughout the school year.

"THE CHALLENGE," in which each advisory participates in a grade-wide competition, was created and evidently decided upon without any input from student government or students in general. Advisories earn points by completing various tasks, in this instance dressing up for Spirit Week theme days and making an advisory poster.

The posters were shown off before the student-faculty volleyball game, and Guidance Department members voted to determine which were the best. "The Challenge" brought forth noticeably lackluster results despite receiving significant push from the faculty.

Instead of paying attention to student response and adjusting their plans accordingly, the adults of U-High, unintentionally, seem to be pursuing their idea of a spirited, friendly competition and forcing it onto an indifferent group of students.

ONE PERSISTENT IDEA among administrators and teachers is that U-Highers are too serious to "let their hair down."

Both Mr. Fech and Ms. Campos have said one of their goals this year is to address this attitude among students. If the adults are truly stressing the importance of school spirit for the benefit of U-Highers, then they need to back off and allow student efforts to prosper instead of trying to force spirit projects onto them.

Allowing students to determine the pace and rhythm of school spirit will likely result in more genuine enthusiasm than an engineered plan to create whatever the adults are trying to create.



Editorial cartoon by Lydia Fama

U-Highers quickly quiet down about government shutdown

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Opinion columnist

From October 1 through 17 the United States government stopped most functions in its first shutdown since the last ended in 1996.

That makes it the first shutdown in U-Highers' memory, and talk of the shutdown frequented hallways and classrooms. Many students were surprised by the relatively few immediate changes to daily life brought about by the halt in federal activity.



Sonia

In his independent study on behavioral economics, senior Gregory Kurr considered the shutdown with History Teacher Chris Janus.

"I think that, and I'll preface this by saying I'm pretty liberal, it's the Republicans trying to break the government system," Gregory said.

"They're trying to ransom the economy over a law they don't like, even though the law passed every measure.

"Everything was passed the democratic way. They're shutting down the government to try to get Obama to give them what they want. In trying to save people from Obama Care they have inflicted severe economic wounds—millions of Americans have been adversely affected.

John Boehner himself messed up when he said he didn't want the shutdown but after it happened he said everything was going according to plan."

History Teacher Charles Disantis also brought the topic up in his AT Economics class according to senior Sophia Weaver.

"I think it's just another example of how partisan politics can hold the government hostage," Sophia said. "Ted Cruz and other House of Representative members of the Tea Party are using it as a way to get the press for their ideas.

"It came up a lot in Econ because we were talking about the debt ceiling and how it would affect the country's status and how the international community sees the strength of our government."

Although some students felt U-Highers were surprisingly mum about the issue, I found that many students were motivated to keep up to date in order to comment during discussions.

News of the shutdown seemed the topic of conversation when U-Highers first heard about it, but talk dwindled down rapidly.

Surely conversation will start up again in a couple months since the approved federal budget which ended the shutdown lasts only until January 15, and the debt ceiling holds until February 7. Perhaps when those dates come around, U-Highers will debate events for a longer time.

Quick Q

What celebrity couple would you want to be adopted by and why?



Bolu

BOLU JOHNSON, senior: Not Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt because they adopt enough African kids already.

EMILI HUSAIN, junior: I would want to be adopted by Neil Patrick Harris and David Burtka because they have super cute children and seem like a fun family. Also they have really awesome Halloween costumes.



Emili

CHRIS HEALY, sophomore: Kanye West and his snake of a wife, Kim Kardashian. I'd love to be adopted by them because I'd be the son of a God. Also, I'd get to wear the newest threads and listen to unreleased hits produced by Kanye.

PAIGE FISHMAN, freshman: I would want to be Jay-Z and Beyoncé's daughter because they are so talented and hopefully some of their talent would rub off on me. Plus they seem like really nice people.



Chris



Paige

—Compiled by Hebah Masood



Published nine times during the school year by journalism and photojournalism students of University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637. Phone 773-702-0591. FAX 773-702-7455. E-mail uhrasle@ucls.uchicago.edu. Copyright 2013 University High School, Chicago, Journalism Department. Printed by FGS, Broadview, Illinois.

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF:.....Michael Glick, Marissa Page, Hebah Masood, Sonia Bourdaghs
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR:.....Jeff Li
BUSINESS AND ADVERTISING MANAGERS:.....Maia-Claire Chong Boussy and Elena Maestripiieri

PAGE EDITORS this issue: 1, news, Sonia Bourdaghs; 2, photoature, Elena Maestripiieri; 3, news, Mia Luo; 4, City Life, Clay Surmeier; 5, features, Maia Boussy; 6, opinion, Natalie Holley; 6, reviews and columns, Marissa Page; 8, sports, Mike Glick; 9, sports, Luke Murphy; 10, photo-feature, Hebah Masood.

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ADVISERS:.....Wayne Brasler (editorial, business); Liese Ricketts (photojournalism).

'Carrie' reboot matches gore but lacks passion of original

By Christine Obert-Hong
Film critic

Stephen King's novels, particularly those adapted for film, are famous for their suspense, science fiction, touches of fantasy and, most notably, horror. "Carrie," a King classic recently revamped for the second time, is no exception to this trend. The story has been retold and expanded multiple times, spawning a 1976 movie sequel, stage musical, TV show and, finally, this most recent remake.

Best known for her debut feature film "Boys Don't Cry," which won 43 awards and was nominated for 27 others, director Kimberly Peirce brings to life the tale of troubled telekinetic teen Carrie White (newcomer Chloe Grace Moretz).

One of America's most frequently banned books, "Carrie" was King's first novel. Discouraged with his initial progress, he threw out an early draft of "Carrie," intent on abandoning the project. King's wife Tabitha retrieved it and encouraged her husband to finish. A giant hit, the book was published in 1974.

Two years later, Brian De Palma directed the first film adaptation, launching the career of Sissy Spacek in the title role. In 1988, another adaptation, Terry Hands' stage production "Carrie: The Musical," first ran in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. It soon moved to Broadway, and even though the theatre was sold out every night, it closed after only 16 previews and five performances because of insufficient funding.

Following the production of the musical, a film sequel, "The Rage: Carrie 2," directed by Katt Shea, was released in 1999. Three years later, a film adaptation directed by David Carson debuted on TV. The latest film adaptation was released Friday, October 18. Because technology has changed so much in the past

37 years, there are critical differences in how the other teens, such as Chris Hargensen (Portia Doubleday) and Sue Snell (Gabriella Wilde), bully Carrie. Other smaller differences, such as name changes, separate this adaptation from the original. For example, King originally called Carrie's school Ewen High, but the name was changed in the first adaptation to Bates High, after Norman Bates from "Psycho." In the 2013 version, the name has been switched back.



Christine

The film starts off in Carrie's quaint neighborhood, focusing on a single blue house with a burnt-orange car parked next to it. The quiet is soon disrupted, however, by the bloody, gruesome depiction of Carrie's mother Margaret White (Julianne Moore) giving birth to her daughter. Sixteen years later, Carrie is kept a prisoner, both metaphorically and literally, by her mother's religious fanatic ways, and is constantly taunted and beat down by the girls at her school.

The film's mood is greatly affected by the music and cinematography throughout. Rare moments of peace for the tormented Carrie are underscored with soft piano music, brighter colors and lighting. Whenever her telekinetic powers are let loose, a deep, vibrating hum plays while the lighting plummets into darkness, fading the picture uncomfortably.

Despite the stark contrast between these kinds of scenes, the movie transitions between them smoothly. By the movie's end, Peirce has unleashed the full force of the unsettling ambience she has only hinted at before during "Carrie's" famed conclusion.

Like all remakes, the 2013 adaptation has to compete



the-filmreel.com

Against her mother's wishes, Carrie prepares for her high school Prom, unaware of both the mislocation of her corsage and the torment which awaits her in latest remake of the horror classic "Carrie." Julianne Moore portrays the mother and Chloe Grace Moretz is Carrie.

with the 1976 original, by, somehow, being original enough in its interpretation while remaining faithful to its source material.

The first "Carrie" not only won a grand prize at the Avoriaz Fantastic Film Festival, but was also nominated for multiple Academy Awards as well as ranking number 88 on Empire Magazine's list of The 500 Greatest Movies of All Time. On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, the 1976 adaptation currently holds a 91 percent "Certified Fresh" rating, whereas the new film has a 48 percent rating. While Peirce's "Carrie" does have a lot to live up to with the original, the remake unfortunately lacks the vitality and passion of the original to a severe extent.

Two traditions create turkey twist

By Mia Luo
Cooking columnist

Chicken potstickers, mashed potatoes and chow mein. That's my family's version of a Thanksgiving meal. I may have never enjoyed the "traditional" Thanksgiving but, in my family, Thanksgiving traditions evolved out of both our Chinese and American heritage.

So, with Thanksgiving just around the corner, I wanted to write about one of our family recipes that everyone can try: a



Mia

Chinese twist on stuffing. Although some of the ingredients might only be found on a trip to Chinatown, this recipe is otherwise amazingly easy.

Whether you're looking to bring a little Asian flavor to your family's Thanksgiving or just looking for a quick dinner to warm you and a couple of friends against the November chill, Chinese stuffing is sure to hit the spot.

Preparation time: 25 to 30 minutes. Most of it will be used for cooking the rice and chopping the ingredients. The actual cooking of the stuffing should only take about 10 minutes.

You will need:

1 cup regular white rice
1 cup Chinese sweet rice, which can be purchased from grocery stores in Chinatown
1/2 cup of cured ham steak, cubed
1 cup frozen soy (edamame) beans, which can be substituted with lima beans if necessary
1 cup of tofu blocks
1 teaspoon of dried ginger, minced
Canola oil
Dark Kikkoman soy sauce
Salt/Sugar
4-5 people to share it with - this recipe can't be eaten alone!

What to do:

Mix the two rice types in a mixing bowl and add 2 cups of water, then put the mixture into a medium-size pot. Bring the rice and water mixture to a boil on a stove. Then, cover the mixture and put it on low heat for 20 minutes. Stir it every 2 to 3 minutes to prevent stickiness. The rice should come into a soft mass. After the rice is done, let it cool for 5 minutes.

While the rice is cooking, mince the ginger and chop the tofu blocks and cured ham into cubes. Put the frozen edamame beans in the microwave for 1 minute just to slightly thaw them.



Photo by Monica Valenzuela

Enjoying the savory scent of cooking ham and hot crackling of stir-frying oil, Mia prepares a traditional family recipe for Chinese stuffing in her kitchen.

Cover the bottom of a large wok or pan with oil. Turn on the heat and let the pan and oil heat up for about 2 to 3 minutes.

After the oil is hot, put the ham, tofu, minced ginger, and beans into the wok or pan.

Stir-fry these ingredients with a spatula until the sizzling almost stops. This should take maybe 5 min-

utes. Make sure to wear long sleeves or the popping oil might hurt!

Add in the rice and stir, thoroughly combining the ingredients.

Add in dashes of soy sauce, thoroughly stirring, until rice is browned.

Add salt and sugar, stirring it in, to taste.

Eat it while it's hot! It'll be sure to stuff you up.



blog.connectv.com

After breaking Ichabod Crane out of jail, Lieutenant Abbie Mills, plans a trip to the cave where the professor woke up from his 250-year slumber in the hit TV series, "Hollow," modeled on the famous Washington Irving classic story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

'Hollow,' but only in name

By Natalie Holley
Television critic

Sleepy Hollow, FOX's undeniable breakout drama of the season, has captured the attention of nerds, fangirls, and housewives alike. Easily the best attempt at the "fairytale" TV trend of the past few years, "Hollow" has found the perfect balance of intriguing plotlines, familiar tropes, and modern storytelling.

Based on the 19th century Washington Irving short story "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," the show follows Ichabod Crane (Tom Milson), a colonial era professor and spy who was killed by the Headless Horseman. When the Horseman resurrects himself in the 21st century, Crane is brought back to life alongside him. Soon the Horseman is back to his old routine of killing those who stand in the way of his path to greatness. One of his victims is Sheriff August Corbin (Clancy Brown), whose death opens a new investigation.

The late sheriff's partner, young Lieutenant Abbie Mills (Nicole Beharie), not only witnesses his death, but watches as the headless, mysterious killer escapes from the crime scene. When

Professor Crane is brought in as a suspect and deemed mentally ill due to his colonial era rambling, Abbie is the only person willing to listen to him. The two soon pair up as they try to figure out just who the horseman is and how to stop him. Along the way Abbie's world view



Natalie

is constantly challenged, as she's forced to realize that the world around her is nowhere as simple nor explanatory as it seems.

What makes Sleepy Hollow great is easily the relationship between Abbie and Crane. Both are sharp-tongued, witty

sides of the same coin. Despite the differences between them, namely that Professor Crane is a British spy for the rebel Bluecoats who have been dormant for the past 250 years whereas Abbie is a black female cop raised in modern-day New England, the two get along extremely well. Because of their shared secret and desperation to find answers, the bond shared between them is sincerely portrayed and well-acted.

Soccermen put up fight but fall short in Regional

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief

Following two 40-minute halves and two 10-minute overtime periods in soccermen's 2A Regional Final against Kennedy October 25, darkness settles over Jackman Field.

Still no team has been crowned champ.

With hundreds of fans along the sideline, the games heads into penalty kicks. Kennedy defeats the Maroons 3-2 in the shootout, ending U-High's title dreams.

PACED BY senior Cole Zimmerman's strong goalkeeping and a goal from sophomore Chris Healy, the Maroons (5-12-2, 3-2-1 Independent School League) beat Mount Carmel 1-0 October 23 in the Regional Semifinal to advance to face Kennedy.

Senior Christian Morris' header goal 28 minutes in put the Maroons ahead, but Kennedy sophomore Nico Williams blasted a left-footed shot into the top corner of the goal to tie the game with 16 minutes left in regulation.

"We had total confidence that we were going to come out of the Mount Carmel game with a win once we scored, and we brought that confidence to the Kennedy game," Coach Mike Moses said. "I told Christian the day before we played Kennedy that he had a good chance of playing. He plays the forward position so differently from sophomore Alex Foster and posed issues for Kennedy's defense.

"HIS GOAL provided a huge motivational boost. Everyone was jacked. You're always going to be second-

guessed about the penalty kicks, but assistant coach Carlos Acosta and I felt comfortable with the guys who we had take them."

With several goals and a few different calls by referees, senior Jeff Li, cocaptain with senior Jon King, says U-High could have prevailed as ISL champions. Instead, losses to North Shore and Parker and a tie to Latin left the Maroons 4th of seven teams in the ISL.

"We tied Latin 0-0, but we had three or four very good chances to score," Jeff explained. "We had one-on-ones with the goalie, but we couldn't put the ball in the net. That really came back to haunt us.

"AGAINST NORTH SHORE, we should've tied it in the last 10 minutes, but the ref took away a goal we scored. We had a lot of other chances, including a penalty kick in the 1st half. North Shore's goalie played superbly. In our game with Parker, we missed another PK and had another goal taken away."

JV soccermen, coached by Tom Piane and John Aleo, finished with a 6-8-1 record, ending their season with wins over Parker October 8, Uno Charter Garcia October 10 and Brother Rice October 12.

"By the end of the season we were really functioning together," junior Jeffrey Jou said. "In the Parker game we got a couple calls in our favor in the early parts of the game and from there we really dominated.

"AGAINST UNO CHARTER we had a lot more possession and played with great teamwork. Brother Rice was a really tough team, but Benji scored a bending free kick to give us the win."



Photo by Fiona Potter

With St. Ignatius' Anthony DeMeo (26) and Zak Soenen (11) bearing down on him, sophomore Schuler Small deftly dribbles the ball down the field in the Maroons' 3-0 loss to the Wolfpack September 28 at Jackman Field.

Other scores are as follows:
Latin, September 19, away: Varsity tied 0-0 in 2OT, JV lost 2-1; **Timothy Christian**, September 20, away: Varsity lost 2-1, JV lost 4-2; **Morgan Park**, September 24, home: Varsity won 2-0; **Lane Tech**, September 24, home: JV lost 4-1; **Riverside-Brookfield**, September 25, away: Varsity lost 2-1, JV lost 1-0; **North Shore**, September 27, away: Varsity lost 1-0; **St. Ignatius**, September 28, home:

Varsity lost 3-0, JV lost 2-0; **Payton**, October 1, home: Varsity tied 3-3; **Latin**, October 1, home: JV tied 1-1; **De La Salle**, October 5, home: Varsity won 5-1; **Parker**, October 8, home: Varsity lost 1-0, JV won 4-1; **Uno Charter Garcia**, October 10, home: JV won 2-1; **Elgin**, October 11, home: Varsity won 3-1; **Brother Rice**, October 12, home: Varsity lost 1-0, JV won 1-0; **Eric Solonio**, October 17, away: Varsity lost 3-2.

Girl runners triumph at Regional; boys place 2nd to Mount Carmel

By Julian Lark
Associate editor

With underclassmen posting top times to supplement strong performances from upperclassmen, cross country runners overcame a difficult course at Regionals to qualify for Sectionals.

Girl runners, coached by Debbie Ribbens, placed 1st at Regionals October 26, with sophomore Lucy Kenig-Ziesler placing 1st, freshman Elsa Erling 2nd and freshman Isabella Khan 3rd. Sophomore Jacob Meyer placed 2nd for the boys followed by senior Max Volchenbom's 3rd place finish, leading the boys, coached by Chris Harper, to 2nd place behind Mount Carmel. Both teams qualified for the Sectionals November 2.

"Our main challenges are injuries to runners like junior Glenn Decety, who has shin splints, and sophomore David Hedges, who had an Achilles tendon injury," Max said. "The team needs five runners to compete, and filling those 4th and 5th positions will be tough. If one member does poorly, the whole team suffers."

ALTHOUGH FEW team members set personal records at Regionals, Jacob felt confident about the Maroons' chances to qualify for State.

"Our goal throughout the season has always been to qualify for State as a team," Jacob said. "That has moti-

vated us the entire year. There weren't many personal records set at Regionals because it was a slow and hilly course, but we still feel confident about qualifying."

Sophomore Lucy Kenig-Ziesler, who consistently placed highest for the girls, said U-High's practices have the team prepared for tough competition ahead.

"WE FEEL that we can do really well because we have a schedule of working really hard in the first half of the season and slowly tapering towards the end," Lucy said. "The workouts now aren't as hard as they were early in the season to keep our legs fresher for races, but we've added the muscle and the miles we need to perform as well as we can.

"I also think that the team outperforms expectations regularly. Because we have a lot of runners who are about the same speed, especially for the girls, this pushes people harder when someone is running particularly well one day."

Coach Ribbens agreed with Lucy, citing the Maroons' diverse practice routines and good team chemistry as reasons for their success throughout the season.

"A LOT OF people set personal records, and the runners are all in good shape," Coach Ribbens said. "We did a lot of swimming and core, so our workouts have been really well-rounded. It's been an outstanding year with great leadership. We've had a lot of camaraderie."



Photo by Jeff Li

Leaping to get the ball, junior Carra Gray prepares to spike in the Maroons' win over Woodlands in the Dig Pink game October 9 in Upper Kovler.

Volleyballers hit their way to Regional Final

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor

Rounding out their regular season with a Senior Night victory over Rich East High School October 25, volleyballers finished the regular season with a 21-10 record.

The Maroons, coached by Lisa Miller and Michael Soapes, followed the season finale with a 25-9, 25-13 victory over Thornridge in the IHSA 3A Regional Semifinal October 29, advancing to face Evergreen Park in the Regional Final October 31 (came after Midway presstime). The Maroons moved up from 2A to 3A following last year's Supersectional appearance.

With wins in the Dig Pink game, the Willows Tournament and senior night, the Maroons looked primed for another deep playoff run.

"SENIOR NIGHT was a bittersweet game for me," junior Eleri Miller said. "I was happy that we had such a huge turnout and that we won, but it was sad knowing that this was the last game of the regular season with the seniors."

Eleri said the Maroons' Willows Tournament victory October 19 broke a string of recent shortcomings at the tourney.

"A huge highlight was winning the Willows

Trainer responds to player injury

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief

Because of an error in page construction, the Midway inadvertently omitted a crucial component of a sports story last issue.

In U-High soccermen's match against Northridge September 12 at Jackman, Northridge's Luis Roman fractured his clavicle following a collision with a U-High player. U-High athletic trainer Mallory Mihalov responded to the injury, and paramedics arrived roughly 15 minutes following the injury. According to Northridge Athletic Director Will Rey, Luis' injury required surgery and kept him out of school for about a week.

Mallory says she recognized the magnitude of the injury as she observed Luis' extreme pain.

"I asked him what happened, and I asked him to point where he felt pain," Mallory said. "He could move his legs and arms, but he was having slight shortness of breath. He said he was feeling a pain level of 10 on a scale from one to 10.

"I had a feeling his clavicle was fractured, so I stabilized him and had him stay as still as possible. The ambulance came quickly, but it's hard to keep someone calm for 10, 15 minutes."

tournament," Eleri said. "We have placed 2nd or 3rd in that tournament each year, but this time we were able to come out on top."

U-HIGH ALSO defeated Woodlands in the annual Dig Pink game October 9 at home.

"There were many great moments this year, but one of the most memorable moments for me would be Dig Pink," junior Carra Gray said. "We made a really great amount of money for the charity we were donating to, and we won."

Other results are as follows:

Willows, September 10, home: Varsity won; **Agricultural Science**, September 12, home: Varsity lost; **Noble Street**, September 19, home: Varsity won; **Elgin**, September 21, away: Varsity lost; **Mooseheart**, September 21, away: Varsity won; **Westminster Christian**, September 21, away: Varsity won; **IMSA**, September 21, away: Varsity won; **MPA**, September 24, home: Varsity lost; **Latin**, September 26, away: Varsity lost; **Elgin Academy**, October 1, home: Varsity won; **Kennedy**, October 5, away: Varsity lost; **Thornton Fractional**, October 5, away: Varsity won; **Morton**, October 5, away: Varsity won; **Argo**, October 5, away: Varsity won; **North Shore**, October 15, away: Varsity won; **Providence-St. Mel**, October 17, home: Varsity won; **Cristo Rey Jesuit**, October 18, away: Varsity won; **North Shore**, October 19, Willows Quad: Varsity won; **Woodlands**, October 19, Willows Quad: Varsity won; **Willows**, October 19, Willows Quad: Varsity won; **Willows**, October 19, Willows Quad: Varsity won; **Parker**, October 22, away: Varsity won.

Underclassmen overwhelm in playoffs

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief

Led by stellar performances from freshman Dhanya Asokumar and sophomores Grace Anderson and Monica Lewis, girl tennis players finished 2nd of eight teams behind St. Ignatius at Sectionals October 19.

After two losses to start the season, the Maroons, captained by senior Jen Xue and junior Della Brown, promptly turned their season around with 10 consecutive wins.

COACHED BY Julijana Lazarevich, U-High defeated conference foes Latin, Woodlands, Parker, Elgin, North Shore and MPA during the regular season before tying Latin for the ISL Championship. At Sectionals Dhanya placed 1st in singles and Grace and Monica placed 3rd in doubles.

By finishing in the top four in their respective divisions, Dhanya, Grace and Monica qualified for State October 24-26. Dhanya went 3-2 in the double-elimination State singles division, and Grace and Monica won two matches and lost two.

"At Sectionals, I played De La Salle's Khalia Powell in the finals, who was seeded number one in the Sectional," Dhanya said. "I was seeded number two, and I had lost to her in the regu-

lar season. It was very nerve-racking because it was a tight match and she was a senior. She had a lot more experience in the high school playoffs, so I was really intimidated. But it was great that I was able to pull it off.

"I CAME INTO State ready to play and win. The first match against Batavia's Nora McClure was not super challenging, and it was really good preparation for my match with Lake Forest's Christina Zordani, who is an incredibly talented player. Zordani is up there nationally and I played well, but she is older and more experienced, and an all-around better player.

"In my last match on Friday morning, I won the first set 6-1 and then lost 4-6, 1-6. I learned a lot from that match. I was winning 4-3 in the second set and my opponent came back to win the set and win the match."

Although Dhanya and freshman Alex Lund remained the Maroons' singles players throughout the season, U-High experimented with different doubles teams early in the year.

"WHEN WE STARTED out the season, we switched the lineups around quite a bit, and that made it tough for the doubles teams to build consistency," Grace said. "You really need to know how your partner plays, so it's hard to keep switching who your partner is. I think that's partly why our record improved so much through-

out the season. Monica has been my partner since we played Fenwick, and we only lost once in the regular season and twice in tournaments. We really melded together."

JV finished with a record of five wins and four losses (4-1 against ISL opponents), defeating five of its final six opponents.

"ONE OF OUR MOST memorable matches was against Parker," junior Francine Almeda said. "We thought it would be a tough school to beat, but it turned out to be a clean sweep, with nearly everyone having the same winning set score.

"This year we had a lot of new freshmen join, more than in any previous years. With so many underclassmen, there's a lot to look forward to in terms of potential varsity players.

"Since the team was so big this year, we had a lot of people on the border between JV and varsity. Many of the freshmen have great skills and definitely have the potential to fill spaces on varsity next year."

Other results are as follows:

Sandburg, September 4, away: Varsity lost 2-3, JV lost 2-3; **Fenwick**, September 11, away: Varsity lost 0-5, JV lost 0-5; **Payton**, September 20, home: Varsity won 5-0; **Latin**, September 24, home: Varsity won 3-2, JV lost 2-3; **Woodlands**, September 25, home: Varsity won 5-0, JV won 4-1; **Parker**, September 27, away: Varsity won 4-1, JV won 5-0; **De La Salle**, September 30, home: Varsity won 3-2; **Elgin**, October 1, home: Varsity won 5-0; **Agricultural**



Photo by Monica Valenzuela
Focusing in on the ball, freshman Tifanny Lau delivers a backhand in the JV Maroons' match against Latin September 24 at Stagg Field tennis courts.

Science, October 1, away: JV won 3-2; **North Shore**, October 4, away: Varsity won 5-0, JV won 3-0; **Whitney Young**, October 7, home: Varsity won 3-2; **St. Ignatius**, October 9, away: Varsity won 4-1, JV lost 1-4 at home; **Morgan Park**, October 10, away: Varsity won 5-0, JV won 3-1; **ISL Championships**, October 12 and 16, away: Varsity placed tied for 1st; **Sectionals**, October 18-19, away: Varsity placed 2nd.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

In their final home meet of their high school careers, seniors Magda Glotzer, Carah Alexander and Lillian Eckstein dive off the blocks October 29.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Rapidly pushing the water behind her as she accelerates forward, junior Kate Franks swims the butterfly for the Maroons October 29.

Swimmers picking up steam as Sectional meet approaches

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor

With the season winding to a close, girl swimmers will travel to Normal for the U-High Normal Invite at Illinois State University this Saturday.

Following the U-High Normal Invite, U-High will have one week to prepare for the Sectional meet November 16 at University of Illinois-Chicago. The Maroons will face competition from top teams including St. Ignatius, Latin and Whitney Young.

IN THEIR FINAL home meet October 29, Maroon swimmers defeated Payton and Jones in the tri-meet held at the Ratner Center. The Maroons honored seniors Carah Alexander, Alex Cohen, Lillian Eckstein and Magda Glotzer with a ceremony half way through the meet.

Madga, cocaptain with Lillian, has appreciated the team's consistent dedication throughout the season, especially the contributions from the juniors.

"Senior night has been my favorite meet since I first joined the team," Magda said. "There is always such a great atmosphere and everyone swims well."

"WE HAVE BEEN cross training in the mornings and swimming after school everyday, so right now there's just a lot of excitement for the future. The juniors especially have put in tons of work this

season."

The Maroons placed 2nd of six teams at the Latin Invitational October 26, highlighted by top showings from the relay teams.

"AT THE LATIN Invitational we lost to Latin by four points," sophomore Olivia Perozo said. "Two records were broken at the meet, the 200-free relay and the 400-free relay."

"Freshman Taylor Thompson dropped five seconds on her 100-breast stroke and came in 5th place, junior Alex Thompson won the 50-free, and sophomore Ilana Dutton took 1st in the 200-free. Junior Katie Adlaka finished the 500-free in six minutes and five seconds.

"I feel as though we've been breaking so many records in large part because of the leadership coach Kate Chronic has brought. She leads very intense practices even having double practices over the summer. We also started a couple weeks earlier this year than we have in years past.

"AFTER SEEING our recent results, the team has really bought into her coaching style and she commands our entire respect.

"What's going to stand between our team and success at Sectionals is our 400-relay team's performance. A lot of the other teams stack that relay with their best swimmers, so we're going to have to rise to the occasion."

Sophomore leads golfers at Regional with hole-in-one

By Julian Lark
Associate editor

With a season-best 18-hole score of 380, Maroon golfers, led by sophomore Andrew Chizever's Sectional-qualifying performance, ended their season with a 9th place standing at Regionals October 8.

U-High golfers, coached by Micah Christensen and Grant Gonnerman and captained by senior Rahul Mehta, faced strong competition at Regionals, particularly from suburban powerhouses Glenbard South and Nazareth according to Andrew. Andrew was the only U-High golfer to qualify for the Sectional at Broken Arrow Golf Course in Lockport October 14, where he shot a 91.

DESPITE FIELDING a young team throughout the season, Andrew says U-High has shown consistent progress.

"We fall behind when it comes to our school size," Andrew said. "We don't have a big enough student population to have enough people willing to devote their entire summer to golf."

"I don't see this as entirely bad though because our golf team is made up of people who do a lot of other interesting things and are well-balanced. Other schools located in the suburbs such as North Shore Country Day have easier access to golf courses and have a higher percentage of families that belong to country clubs."

HIGHLIGHTED BY a hole-in-one, Andrew's performance at the Regional benefitted from work with his irons.

"When you play at Lost Marsh, our home course in Hammond, Indiana, accurate irons are the key to success, so that's what I worked on the most and it really paid off," Andrew said. "For the next season though, I would like to work on my tee shots."

Freshman Andrew Beach also shot a hole-in-one, during a practice hole while playing with freshman Kyle Adlaka.

"Andrew asked to borrow my three-wood for a 168 yard shot," Kyle said. "I thought he was crazy and told him so, but he did it anyway. He lined up, took back the club, and swung."

"IT LOOKED to be a bad shot to the left, but it slowly arced back to the right. It landed on the green and suddenly disappeared into the hole."

Other results are as follows:

ISL Invitational, August 21, at Cog Hill: Varsity placed 6th with a 410; **Parker**, August 22, home: Varsity lost 234-178; **Northridge**, August 29, home: Varsity lost 248-178; **Latin**, September 10, away: Varsity lost 197-167; **Guerin College Prep**, September 12, home: Varsity won 220-224; **Elgin Academy**, September 20, away: Varsity lost 218-184; **ISL Championship**, September 24, at Cog Hill: Varsity placed 6th; **IHSA 2A Regionals**, October 8, at Broken Arrow: Varsity placed 9th of 10.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Emergency security lights, which Students Council members were told needed to be off in case of emergency, shined down as students chatted on the tarp-covered floor in the Upper Kovler gym for the Homecoming Dance Saturday, October 12. Finding themselves unable to put up decorations, but student government handed out boa scarves and light up necklaces.

Fashions highlight dance with no decorations and few dancers

By Hebah Masood
Editor-in-Chief

Three bright security lights shined down on half the Upper Kovler Gym as dancegoers clumped in a long line of chatty, non-dancing students on Saturday, October 12 at the Homecoming Dance.

The bright lights, which Student Council officers were required in case of emergency, resulted in few of about 300 students there actually dancing on the tarp-covered floor, to protect from high heels.

MANY STUDENTS HAD left soon after they arrived, or stayed and talked to their friends the dance floor or in the gym bleachers. For many years, dances have taken place in the International House with DJ Jamal Smallz, but this year Homecoming Dance took place in the gym with Student Council President Phil Healy DJ-ing.

Previously planned decorations for the "Once Upon a Time...In Middle School" theme, could not be put up, but Student Council members handed out light up necklaces and boa scarves. "We decided during the meeting with Mr. Wilson that we were going to set up poles and hang streamers up across them to make the ceiling look lower because we were worried the space seemed too big," Tiffany said.

"We also decided to put the divider down to minimize space. We bought tons of streamers, but when we started to hang them the day of the dance they were breaking and it just wasn't working."

PHIL SAID he decided to DJ, since numerous seniors asked him to after hearing the mix of songs he made for the first day of school assembly.

"After a lot of people requested Phil as a DJ he met with Ms. Campos to get her okay," Tiffany said. "It was really hard to fit everyone's interest."

"Many people were unhappy because some people wanted music that they could dance to and other people wanted the music he was playing, which was trap music. The speaker systems were also really bad, so there were just a lot of technical issues that we couldn't control."

MS CAMPOS SAID she saw no differences between having a student or professional DJ.

"I think Phil had some bad luck," Ms. Campos said. "It wasn't his fault. Professional DJs bring their own sound system but in this case we had to use the gym's sound system. The speakers in the gym typically work fine. It's unclear why the sound system had trouble that night, which is unfortunate."

As DJ, Phil was required to have a list of songs approved by Principal Scott Fech and Ms. Campos before the dance.

"MOST PEOPLE said they liked my music selection, but I tried to play a variety of music, so some songs landed

with parts of the crowd and not other parts," Phil said.

"Also, some of the songs that I wanted to play and that most of the dancegoers enjoyed made the crowd too 'rowdy,' as in some of the upperclassmen formed a circle and jumped around on the dance floor, and Mr. Fech told me to change it to something less 'heavy' when this happened because he did not want anyone to get pushed and hurt."

"DJ-ing in that atmosphere is certainly difficult, to say the least, and not a task I wish to take on again. I thought I should take on this responsibility because I thought I understood what the students wanted to hear."

"I FELT I WAS qualified to do so I because I have good taste in music and I listened to requests. I am also not a sound technician, so I cannot guarantee that there will not be technical difficulties if I were to DJ the next dance."

The next all-school dance, Semi-formal, February 1, will return to International House with a hired DJ.

"Having the dance in the International House will already avoid a lot of obstacles like the lights issue," Tiffany said. "Phil will not be DJing. He agreed that is wasn't the best decision. The music and the lights were the two main problems with this dance, and if we can fix both of those I think it will solve a lot of the unhappiness."

KINGS AND QUEENS were crowned as follows:

ALL-SCHOOL—Charlotte Elfenbaum and Matthew Davis

HONORARY ALL-SCHOOL—Fiona Potter and Michael Horio

SENIORS—Natalie Kampf Charles Chamberlain

JUNIORS—Carra Gray and Wyatt Dandy

SOPHOMORES—Rachel Housinger and Dylan Olthoff

FRESHMAN—Danny Kim



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Tiffany Davis
Lillian Eckstein



Photo by Fiona Potter

Ruby Koontz
Zoe Briskey



Photo by Fiona Potter

Natalie Johnson
Danielle Johnson
Mia Luo



Photo by Fiona Potter

Christine Obert-Hong
Lydia Fama



Photo by Fiona Potter

Sean Selig
Ben Rhind



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Michael Horio
Fiona Potter



Photo by Fiona Potter

Because of the bright security lights, most students said they felt uncomfortable dancing and instead stood around talking to their friends or, as shown in other photos, sat in the bleachers.