



Photo by Stacy Stern

Looking around at the newly-renovated Harper Court, Gabby Beamon, Lucy Huang and Loren Sosnick enjoy the vibrant look of the street which now includes, among other businesses, the Harper Theater, A10, Akira, Chipotle and a new Hyatt Hotel. “It was just great to see Hyde Park no longer be a scary place to be,” Loren said. “For a long period of time 53rd Street was closed down in a lot of places. It just didn’t look welcoming, and now it does.”

# Harper Court revives with new shops, dining, Hyatt Hotel, office tower

By Luke Murphy  
Associate editor

With the addition of new retail, entertainment and tourist venues, Hyde Park’s 60-year-old Harper Court is changing rapidly under the guidance of Jim Hennessy, Associate Vice President for Commercial Real Estate at the University of Chicago.

A team led by Mr. Hennessy is transforming the 1.1 million square feet of possible retail space, by bringing in businesses including Chipotle, Harper Theatre, Sir and Madame, Independence, Hyatt Hotel, Villa, LA Fitness, AT&T, Akira, A10, Red Mango and Porkchop.

CONSTRUCTION ON the new Harper Court commenced in the fall of 2011 and reached completion last summer. Although tenants began opening over the summer, Mr. Hennessy believes his team’s final vision is still months away.

“Success in my eyes is a mixture of multiple retailers that provide a thriving gathering place for people to come,” Mr. Hennessy said while sitting in his office in the Harper Court Office Building, a structure that towers over Hyde Park.

“When we looked at possible businesses it wasn’t so much ‘we need to get a Gap or we need to get a Chipotle’ but rather we went about the process by determining specific categories that we needed to fulfill and then finding certain retailers that fit the description. Akira was pioneering in that they were one of the first ones to take a chance on opening in Hyde Park, as opposed to some national apparel retailers that need to come in a group.

“What’s making it a lot easier is that

all the businesses have been successful. Chipotle had the best first week sales in the Midwest in the history of their franchise and Akira has had much higher sales than they anticipated. Of course it will stabilize, but it is a very exciting start.

“As far as inspiration for what kind of shopping area we wanted, we’ve looked at other neighborhoods in Chicago and tried to incorporate the best components of each in the vision for Harper 53rd Street while also being respectful of the uniqueness of Hyde Park that makes it so special.”

SIMILARLY TO when 53rd Street offered retailers Supreme Jewelers, Mr. G’s, The Alhambra, Ace Hardware and Lucielle’s Dress shop in the late ‘60s before being forced out of business, a possible drawback of bringing in new businesses is that some longtime establishments will be forced to close.

“We are paying attention to gentrification,” Mr. Hennessy said. “I think that the businesses that are at risk are the ones that stayed in business because they were the only option in the neighborhood for a specific kind of retail.

“It’s not all bad however, Pizza Capri for example is very excited about what we are doing by bringing in A10. While they are both Italian food, they come in at different price points. A lot of the business has come from people who were deterred by the wait time at A10 and sought dinner elsewhere.”

The store manager of the 53rd Street location of the men’s clothing store Independence, Ickomique Richards-Belmontes, who also goes by “Ticky,”

(continues on page 8)

# Romances bloom as U-High friendships flower

By Marissa Page  
Editor-in-Chief

“When everyone comes back to school after summer vacation, they develop new friendships almost instantly based on who’s in their classes and who they just see more of around school. The same thing goes for relationships. It takes a few months for things to develop fully but by late October and early November you see lots of new couples, especially across grades and between people who didn’t really know each other as well before.”

So observed Senior Logan Crawl, who has been dating junior Della Brown for almost 16 months. The two met during the Fall sports season of his junior and her sophomore year. Logan believes some Lab Schools

students feel uncomfortable dating people they have known from preschool to 12th grade. U-Highers getting to know peers across grade levels at the beginning of the school year through classes, sports and other extracurriculars facilitates inter-grade relationships.

“I remember I had basketball open gym every day after school last fall, and she had tennis,” Logan said. “We got to talking more just casually in and around the gym. There were a few times she needed a ride home after practice so I would take her.”

“Yeah, we just started talking, and immediately we really enjoyed one another’s company,” Della added. “We started dating at the end of October, on the 29th.”

Logan and Della believe their comfortable rapport has kept their relationship strong over the past year.

“For starters, we have a lot in common,” Della said. “Yeah, she loves basketball and spicy food like me,” Logan joked as Della laughed and nudged him with her elbow. “But really, for me personally, I think the reason we’ve lasted so long, or even got going in the first place, is that she really quickly made me feel comfortable around her. It’s always been so easy for me to spend time with Della.”

“If I hear a new piece of gossip or I get a good grade, or even a bad grade, there’s no one I would go to first other than Logan,” Della said. “He’s somebody I want to share all my news with and complain to and he’s one of the only people I can cry in front of. We’ve been through so much together, but because of that our

(continues on page 14)



Photo by Matthew Garvey

Dating for the past 16 months, Della Brown often meets Logan Crawl at his locker. “We’ve had some fun dates, but honestly it doesn’t matter what we do,” Della said. “We just love spending time together.”



Photo by Aurielle Akerele

Lab partners in their AT Biology class last year, Fiona Potter and Michael Horio became friends before dating. Their anniversary, February 21, is the day after Michael’s birthday.



Photo by Aurielle Akerele

After meeting for the first time this September in their shared English and Spanish classes, Sam Adams and Francine Almeda began dating in October.



# Vacation destinations include Michigan, Israel, just staying put

By Marissa Martinez  
Midway reporter

Christmas carols serenade the otherwise silent room in St. Joseph, Michigan. Homemade cookies emit hearty smells into the air. Outside, the evergreens are covered in snow and lights, while inside a fireplace provides warmth, just one example of a Lab Schools holiday. Spanish and French Teacher Ann Beck, is hosting an old-fashioned Christmas this Winter Break, the first break that's been two-and-a-half weeks long for many years at U-High. Ms. Beck, her husband, and her 30-year-old daughter will enjoy it in St. Joseph at the home of Phys Ed Teacher Meghan Janda's twin.

“WE'RE KIND of keeping it in the Lab family,” Ms. Beck said. “The nature is beautiful around there. It's like the southern France in the summer, with a vineyard, lavender garden, fruit trees and grapes. It's going to be very laid back and old-fashioned. We'll have my husband playing the piano and a wood-fueled fireplace, with the Christmas trees being outside. It'll be great.”

Instead of celebrating Hanukkah with family friends, Freshman Jonathan Kutasov will go to Tel Aviv, Israel this year, noing that he'll just be going for ceremony, as the holiday came early this year. “I go approximately once a year with my mother, father and sister,” Jonathan said. “We visit my father's father, who lives in Tel Aviv in a nice neighborhood. We also see many of my dad's friends from high school and the army for a weekend in Eliat, a small town with a beach. I'm most looking forward to seeing my sister, but I'm also excited for Israeli pudding and candy and schnitzel. That's like a huge chicken nugget. I also really like milking cows in the kibbutz, which is basically a small town with a farm and things like that.”

**LEARNING COORDINATOR** Kevin van Eron will be volunteering during the holidays at the Chicago Food Depository.

“It's very competitive to get in,” Mr. van Eron explained. “We have to get ahead of the game and sign up around October – this time of year gets lots of volunteers. My wife, my 7th-grade daughter and I volunteer wherever we're needed. We sort and pack up fresh produce, looking for anything rotten. We pack backpacks for kids in public schools to take home during winter break of after school, so they'll have some sort of nutrition in their diet.

“I really like the camaraderie with the other volunteers. We talk about making a difference with the things we're packing. It's a tradition for many others as well. My wife and I have been volunteering for about 30 years at soup kitchens and animal shelters, but we switched to the Chicago Food Depository when my daughter was six or seven. Our family still volunteers at shelters sometimes, especially with cats. We think it's important to let her know about helping others.”



Visiting the school three days in early November, the Lab Schools' new director, Robin Appleby (here with Director David Magill), met with

University of Chicago photo by Jean Lachat students, teachers and faculty members and was honored at several receptions, including a packed welcoming at the Quadrangle Club.

## New director visits for three days of meetings, greetings, welcomes

By Marissa Page  
Editor-in-Chief

Bookended by a combined 36 hours of round-trip traveling from Dubai to Chicago, The Lab Schools' new director, Robin Appleby, visited Monday-Wednesday, November 4-6, for 72 hours of touring and meet-and-greets.

Throughout her three-day visit, Ms. Appleby met with administrators, students, parents and faculty chairs from across the school divisions. A packed reception took place in honor of Ms. Appleby's visit in the evening on Tuesday, November 5 at the Quadrangle Club.

**MS. APPLEBY GOT** a tour of Earl Shapiro Hall as well as extensive tours of the construction at the Historic Campus for the first time.

“I enjoyed my tour of the school,” Ms. Appleby said. “Earl Shapiro Hall is amazing. The architecture is ideal for its purpose. The way you can see through layers of glass gives a fantastic indoor-outdoor feeling. The Historic Campus is a blend of ‘classic’ and new it's a work always in progress.

“The best part of my tour was getting into classrooms. I saw the languages taught in the Lower School, a Middle School humanities class doing an archaeological dig under a big balloon, a 3rd-grade science class filled with taxidermied animals.

“**MY DAUGHTER** will be in 3rd grade next year and love that room. I got an essence of the creative teaching for which Lab is renown.”

A self-professed highlight of Ms. Appleby's visit was a question-and-answer luncheon with U-Highers November 5.

“It was apparent how committed the Lab community is to their school,” Ms. Appleby said. “It

kept coming up again and again in conversation. Everyone cares so much about the history of Lab, and is supportive of all this school has to offer. My lunch with the high school students was a highlight of my time at Lab. The candidness of questions and willingness of students to talk about Lab was enlightening.

“**AT THAT MEETING** I asked one boy, ‘What makes Lab special for you?’ He said it was the people. I think he had just come to Lab the year before, and he said the outreach of the people he met when he first came was amazing.

“The school and its students have such a strong sense of identity, and they are so eager to share that identity with newcomers. Labbies just want others to know and feel what their school is about because they are proud of this community. I look forward to being a member of Lab next year.”

U-Highers were invited to the luncheon through an Evite sent by Dean of Students Ana Campos.

“**OUR INITIAL PLAN** was to try and get a cross-section of U-High, students from across the school,” Ms. Campos said. “We invited club presidents but most of them were seniors, and we wanted a representation of younger students who would be under her direct tutelage.

“So we also invited the sophomore and junior Student Council representatives. When other students who had not received invites asked, club heads we had missed and senior Council members, we of course allowed them to attend.”

Among that group was U-Highlights Editor-in-Chief Sabrina Holland, senior.

“**I WAS NOT** initially invited to the luncheon, which looks bad on my part to not know about something like this that's going on in the school,” Sabrina said. “I talked to Ms. Campos about it, and she was understanding and invited me.

“Ms. Appleby is going to be a good fit for the school. She seems sweet and smart, and although she sometimes didn't know how to answer questions at the luncheon, that was only because she doesn't know Lab or its students well yet.”

## Music groups brighten holidays with concerts

By Jackie Walker  
Midway reporter

Brightening the holiday season, U-High's music groups are offering musical joy. The Jazz Ensemble kicked off events with a December 3 performance at the celebrated Checkerboard Lounge, 5201 South Harper Avenue.

Led by music teacher Francisco Dean, the Jazz Ensemble included in its enthusiastically-received program “The Clan” by Curtis Fuller and “Maiden Voyage” by Herbie Hancock.

“One change that we had was the format, the Jazz Ensemble now has its own night because of its extraordinary number of new members,” Mr. Dean said. “Usually we perform on the same night as the rest of the music groups. When we performed as a single group, it was a packed house at the Checkerboard and the audience reception was terrific.

“The Freshman Jazz Ensemble played three songs, and the Advanced Jazz Ensemble played four. The Jazz Ensemble will be playing for the community at the Checkerboard Lounge again next spring, and everyone is welcome to join.”

Opening with the U-High Band playing “Fanfare For A New Era” by Mark

Williams and a German piece “Eine Kleine Christmas” arranged by Larry Clark, also conducted Mr. Dean, the annual Winter Concert takes place tonight in Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57th Street at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited. The Choir, the Orchestra and Bel Canto also star in the program.

The High School Choir will be offerog songs from varied cultures and languages including Zambian and German, and featuring songs including, “Throw Open Your Shutters!” by Amy Bernon.

Following the Choir, Bel Canto will sing three songs from different ethnicities and cultures. Both will be conducted by music teacher Katy Sinclair.

The Orchestra, conducted by music teachers Michelle Morales and Rozalyn Torto, will close the concert with pieces including “Brandenburg Concerto No.3” by Sebastian Bach, “Danny Rocks” by Bob Phillips, and a holiday selection of “Charlie Brown Christmas.”

Middle School and High School musicians and vocalists have been offering musical holiday cheer with performances in various school locations, and a Chamber Music concert last Thursday evening.

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Photo by Fiona Potter

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Photos by Monica Valenzuela

## U-Highers celebrate achievements, service

Congratulated on being a Semifinalist honor in the Siemens Math, Science and Technology Competition, senior Alexandra Radway (photos from top) accepted her banner at the Student Recognition Assembly Thursday, November 14 in Upper Kowler Gym.

Junior Benny Friedman took the opportunity to present Think Tank, a new start-up company club sponsored by history teacher Chris Janus. "Think Tank has been awesome," Benny said. "At first I didn't know where it would end up, and we were just bouncing ideas around, but it has led to us having an idea of ours placing second of over 90 at Booth Seedcon, and now we have five ideas at the University of Chicago's App Challenge."

Booth Seedcon is a competition for securing investors in new ventures. The App Challenge is similar but involves mobile applications.

## Holocaust visitors laud broad historic perspective

By Maia Claire-Boussy  
Associate editor

Dreary rainclouds made a gloomy background for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum as five U-High Holocaust students entered for the first time on their four-day trip to Washington, D.C.

Seniors Lindsey Aronson, Kaleb Mazurek, Isabel Mitchell, Sheridan Small and McKenzie Zimmerman were in Washington D.C. November 22-26, spending a day each in the exhibits, archives and library of the museum.

Despite the sometimes graphic and violent images of the main exhibit of the museum, Lindsey felt as though she was prepared for the experience.

"We had talked a lot about how people react to the museum in class," said Lindsey. "I felt like I was emotionally prepared because of that. Also, we had seen and learned a lot of violent and graphic things in class. I thought we were really well set up for the experience."



Photo courtesy of Lindsey Aronson

After a day of researching for their Holocaust class projects, McKenzie Zimmerman, left, and Sheridan Small admire the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial during a class journey to Washington, D.C.

## Beloved Senior Lounge to get new location

New area will be created in renovated Blaine Hall

By John Williams  
Midway reporter

The Class of 2016 will have to make a longer trip to Blaine Hall to hear the familiar sounds of ping-pong balls against paddles, fingers mashing video game controllers and friendly laughter that come with the Senior Lounge.

"It is my understanding that there are plans to expand Cafe Lab to upgrade the food service area and to accommodate the increase in students as U-High expands," Dean of Students Ana Campos told the Midway. "With the art classrooms moving to the new Arts Wing, the Dean's Office, Faculty Lounge and Senior Lounge will all continue to exist, but in a new location."

**THE LOUNGE** was implemented because of a lack of senior privileges at U-High compared with other high schools, according to history teacher Susan Shapiro, a former Student Council adviser. Originally U-High's "Little Theater," and then a film and video media center, it was converted into a long-awaited Senior Lounge in 1992-1993.

The Student Council vice president that year, Sarah Abella, and now a Kindergarten teacher at Earl Shapiro Hall, was among those creating the Lounge.

"The '92-'93 school year was when the Middle School was being built," she said. "Up to that point, there was a big space with floor-to-ceiling windows that ran from the Middle School tower to Blaine. It was a huge hang out area."

**"THERE WAS NO** written rule, but it was very much a place where upperclassmen hung out. When we came back to school in the Fall of '92, the landing was gone, replaced by a construction wall. The school had not taken into consideration how this would impact the students, and had not made plans to make a new space."



Photo by Della Brown

Taking a study break on a weekday afternoon, Valentina Gallon-Morris, left, Anoop Herur-Raman and Lukas

Mireles share a laugh in the Senior Lounge. A new Lounge in Blaine Hall will replace it.

"We asked that we be able to use that room off the cafeteria as a Senior Lounge. They agreed and put up plexiglass as a divider. It was not used very much, although we had events to try to pull people down there. I think for a lot of people, they still didn't see the cafeteria as a hangout place, because they missed the landing. I don't think we ever imagined that it would last into the future."

**THE LOUNGE'S** legacy represents an important part of U-High, Mrs. Shapiro believes. "It has become a benchmark for students ending their high school careers," she explained. "Every Lab student grows up to know that the Lounge is for seniors only, and thus it has a sort of respect from the rest of the student body."

Student Council President Phil Healy, senior, is concerned the relocation could result in future senior class frustration. "Moving the Lounge to Blaine will cause problems," he explained. "Its location makes it ideal for seniors, most of whom

spend most of their free time in the cafeteria."

**"THERE IS NO** other room in U-High dedicated purely to student relaxation. Enjoying the Senior Lounge just as seniors have before us is part of becoming a senior at U-High, and moving the Lounge kills that tradition."

Senior Class President Lillian Eckstein said the Lounge provides a space to unwind. "Although sometimes there is a lack of respect for the space—students often make a mess or do other inconsiderate things—seniors really do appreciate it."

The Lounge gets varying use. A Midway count Wednesday through Friday, November 13-15, found the following numbers of seniors present:

**WEDNESDAY**—1st, zero; 2nd, 13; 3rd, 7; 4th, 12; lunch, 17; 6th, 5; 8th, 9.

**THURSDAY**—1st, zero; 3rd, 11; 5th, 16; lunch, 10; 6th, 5; 7th, 11; 8th, 9.

**FRIDAY**—1st, zero; 2nd, 8; 3rd, 9; 4th, 18; 5th, 20; lunch, 14; 7th, 10; 8th, 11.

## Great Meals for Great Deals!



Photo by Jeff Li

Spotting some dessert options on the inviting menu, Philip Blok and Tiffany Suwatthee debate what to order between pepperoni pizza or a salad for their after school snack at Medici on 57th.

At Medici, we offer something for everyone with our extensive menu that includes savory pan pizzas, fresh salads, and rich hot chocolate - and you can try it all without emptying your wallet! Best of all, we're only a block away from U-High, so you can easily stop by during lunch!



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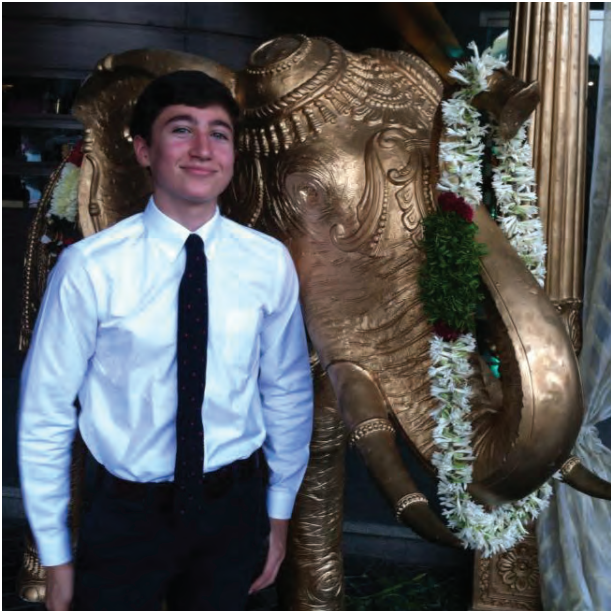


Photo courtesy of Willis Weinstein

Beside a golden elephant stature, Willis Weinstein is in front of the opulent Park Hotel in Hyderabad, India, where he judged in a children's film festival.



Photo courtesy of Willis Weinstein

In front of the Golconda Fort, built in the 16th century to stop the invading Mughals, Willis Weinstein and his mother, Lindsey Arenberg, enjoyed the ancient architecture and ambience.

# Sophomore media star gives India film festival two thumbs up

By Julian Lark  
Associate editor

“We stayed at the Park Hotel, a very modern and opulent place compared to the rest of the city, which was busy and abuzz with activities. The multicolored auto rickshaws, the three-wheeled taxis, added a burst of color to the street. It was very crowded and densely packed, so you really appreciated how open and green a city like Chicago is.”

Selected as one of three delegates from Facets Multimedia to represent the United States at the 18th International Children's Film Festival of India (ICFFI), sophomore Willis Weinstein traveled to Hyderabad, India, all expenses covered by Facets. Willis' mother, Lindsey Arenberg, came with him on the trip.

**ORGANIZED BY THE** Children's Film Society of India, the government of Andhra Pradesh, one of India's 28 states, and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the ICFFI took place November 20-30 in Hyderabad.

Willis auditioned for the Festival through Facets Multimedia, which strives to educate the public about film. Willis has done summer camps and volunteered for Facets, a Chicago-based organization, and has been a jury member for the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

“When I was 10 or 11, I was looking for something entertaining to do over the summer,” Willis explained. “I ended up signing up for a summer camp at Facets where kids could learn about movies, how they're made, what their important components are, et cetera, and then could work in groups to make their own.

**“FROM 14** onwards, I volunteered to help with the Facets summer camp. To go to India, I underwent an audition process which involved watching a film, taking notes, discussing parts of the film with other auditioning kids, and then giving an impromptu short summary and review of a film on camera.”

According to Willis, most young people at the ICFI were in their early teens and from India.

“At the ICFFI, I saw 16 live action feature films and gave three awards to the best films determined by the jury,” Willis said. “Those films got a cash prize,

with the first place film receiving about 200,000 rupees. That's equivalent to about \$3,200.”

**WILLIS ALSO** toured Hyderabad's tourist sites, including Golconda Fort, the monument and mosque Charminar and the Salar Jung Museum.

“Charminar had incredible architectural patterns, and it was in the middle of a busy market, so we could only drive by, but it really stood out due to its height and elaborate minarets,” Willis said.

“It was interesting to get a closer look at non-Western architecture, as I have never been to Asia before and this was my first time really seeing Islamic architecture. Golconda was enormous, and the walls had a geometric pattern at the top that was interesting.

“As for the Salar Jung Museum, it contained a huge collection of art from across the globe, and is one of India's three national museums. It was interesting because when you go to a museum in the US, all the exotic stuff is from the east, the Middle East, India, East Asia, et cetera.

“But in the Salar Jung Museum all the really valuable foreign goods were British or French things. So there were a lot of clocks and European sculptures and furniture.”

**BEFORE WILLIS** left for India, WBEZ's Niala Boodhoo, of the Afternoon Shift, interviewed him October 25, along with a seven-year-old fellow Facets volunteer for a program focusing on children in media. Willis spoke about his experience in film review and the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

“I left school right after lunch and went to Navy Pier, to the NPR recording studio,” Willis explained. “Even though they scheduled us in tightly, we had to wait for 30 minutes or so in the green room and watch the previous guests be recorded, so it was rather nerve-racking.

“The studio itself was pristine, with a great view of the Lake.”

**WILLIS SAID HE IS** determined to stay involved in film and film reviewing.

“I think I might volunteer at Facets in some capacity in the future,” he said, “maybe next summer, maybe doing an internship there.”

## Parents' Association speaker brings grit to Earl Shapiro Hall

By David Hedges  
Midway reporter

*Achievement = Talent × Effort.*

A small amount of talent and a great deal of effort, in the form of grit, equals success, according to the MacArthur “genius” grant recipient Angela Duckworth. In the lobby of the new Earl Shapiro Hall, Dr. Duckworth interpreted her research in a program November 11.

Representatives of the Parents' Association introduced Dr. Duckworth to an audience of almost 200. Her face highlighted by the long lights and slated roof of the new building, Dr. Duckworth explained ‘grit’ to the parents, most of whom took notes and contemplated the “10-Item Self-Scoring Grit Scale” sheet they received at the presentation.

**A RESEARCH** psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Duckworth is considered an expert on the psychology of success. She holds an A.B. from Harvard, an M.Sc. from Oxford University and a Ph.D. from Penn.

Dr. Duckworth left her position at the prominent management-consulting firm McKinsey to become a math teacher in the public schools of San Francisco, Philadelphia and New York City before completing her Ph.D. in psychology in 2006.

She joined the faculty of Penn a year later. Early this year, at age 43, Dr. Duckworth was awarded the MacArthur Grant for her research of intellectual strengths and personality traits in achievement.

Self-control, or the ability to avoid hourly temptations, is not the same thing according to Dr. Duckworth, who asserted that grit yields more successful results.

**“TRULY EMINENT** individuals are not paradigms of self-control, but have grit,” Dr. Duckworth said. “Grit is sustained interest over time and gritty individuals work hard in the same direction, on the same goals for long periods

of time.”

Deliberate practice, another technique Dr. Duckworth studied, focuses on repetition and fine-tuning specific weaknesses of performance with feedback.

“Deliberate practice works on micro refinements of skills,” she explained. “I didn't play piano or violin and I wasn't on a sports team either, so school was my main focus. I would argue in school, kids go weeks without feedback especially in conventional schooling. Applaud your children when they struggle on things.”

**AS A** former public school teacher and a mother of 10- and 12-year-old daughters, Dr. Duckworth expressed her insight into the modern school system.

“We need a culture that is school-wide, not just family-wide, to give feedback, coach our children and normalize failure, so long as kids learn from it. Schools in the U.S. need to look at cultural grit in Finland and East Asia as examples for how to approach grit in our schools.”

The event was part of the Parents' Association's Speaker Series intended to inform parents and teachers of debated topics in education, according to an email from Christie Henry, a Parents' Association Speaker Coordinator.

**“THE TOPICS** of grit and resilience have received a lot of recent attention, from the academy and the general public, and in books and media,” Mrs. Henry said. “We researched a number of scholars and writers in this area, and felt that Dr. Duckworth would be a great fit for Lab.”

The program got great praise, she said. “Parents gave positive feedback about Duckworth's authenticity, her accessibility and her speaking abilities. Perhaps most important, many in the room felt they took home practical tips for ensuring grit in their own children's lives, through deliberate practice, exposure, and determination.”

## Find your hidden talents at JOAN'S STUDIO



Photo by Jeff Li

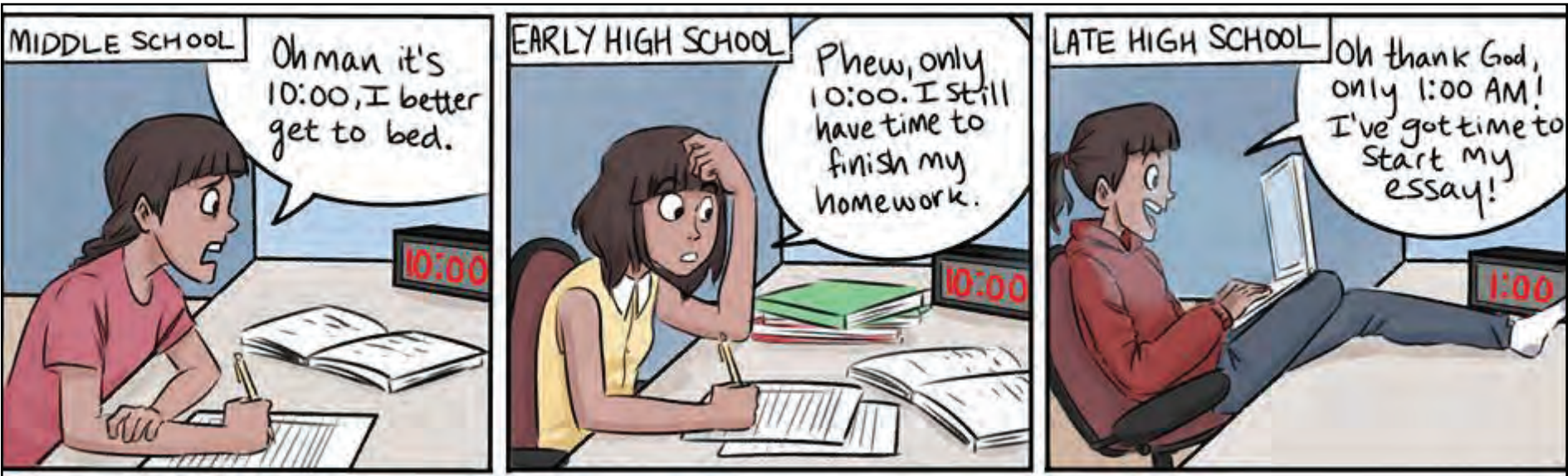
Warming up before his weekly piano lesson at JOAN'S STUDIO, junior Lucas Fagen played scales up and down the keys before practicing songs he had been learning for the holiday season.

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# A performer with multiple talents, enthusiasms

Senior Jack Reece excels as an highly-praised actor, versatile musician

By Hebah Masood  
Editor-in-Chief

**I**t was scary because I didn't immediately know the extent of my injury."

Senior Jack Reece was remembering suffering a dislocated knee cap on stage the opening night of "Godspell" last May when he played the lead role of a Jesus-like character. The performance was ended as he headed for a hospital.

"I WAS SCARED the show would not go on, and I was worried for my cast members who really put in a lot of time and energy into the play," Jack said.

"I found out that I wouldn't be able to walk for a while and our director, drama teacher Liucija Ambrosini made a speedy revision of the show. We focused and worked at it so much before the next show that it was able to walk without me walking."

After the modifications were made, Jack continued in the production the next two nights with his leg in a cast.

"IT WAS A pretty incredible experience to see everyone change just to work around me not being able to walk. Everyone really exploded with support and had a lot of concern for me. It was great to experience that real sense of community."

Acting in Middle School and all four years of High School, Jack was chosen for a lead role again in this year's Fall Production, "An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe."

Jack, easily identifiable by his height and thick, puffy brown hair usually dresses casually in a sweatshirt and jeans. Besides drama, he also has a passion for drumming and jazz piano and drummed during last year's fall production of the Bach Choruses.

AS A SENIOR in theater, Jack said he felt a sense of leadership.

"I think anytime someone takes on a lead role they gain a sense of leadership

even offstage," Jack said. "It was weird for me to see that last year because I was still a junior, so I wasn't the oldest person on staff, and there were people who had been doing theater longer than me."

"This year I felt that leadership position more. There were a lot of new freshmen and sophomores coming this fall and I felt they really looked up to us for acting advice, even though the Edgar Allan Poe play didn't have just one lead role."

**JACK SAID** he was surprised when he got the lead role for "Godspell." He also found that the play portrayed Jesus in a much more relatable and lighthearted manner than usual.

"It was interesting to study because usually Jesus is depicted as a superhuman or something at least higher than man, but 'Gospel' really showed him in an accessible light," he explained.

"I was really surprised. I didn't think there was any way it would be me. I was very humbled and pretty nervous at first."

"BUT I GUESS the pressure was not totally on me. Sometimes in theater you just have to suck it up because you don't want your nerves or anything else to get in the way. It is more about bringing the whole piece together as a team. Even when I was in smaller supporting roles there is always that same mentality of being in a team and bringing the whole thing together."

Mrs. Ambrosini, who taught Jack acting exercises that helped him quickly change from character to character, said she believes Jack's ability to fill his roles completely helps him succeed as an actor.

"Every actor is very unique but Jack's advantage is he has a very strong focus, concentration, energy and he really shows a lot of insight in the characters he plays," Mrs. Ambrosini said. "A lot of

the characters he plays are really well thought out and you can really rely on him as a partner."

"YOU CAN TELL he is very well prepared and gives a very strong depiction of each of the characters he plays. And him having this real sense of character lets him have the ability to switch from character to character quickly, which is really important for an actor."

"He really puts himself into a part and really makes the characters very real and very three-dimensional. In the Edgar Allan Poe production he had to change quickly from very lyrical pieces to comic, poetic and tragic pieces."

"He's also a very intense person, and he's a very accomplished musician. When we did the Bach Choruses last fall he was our drummer."

**JACK TAKES JAZZ** piano lessons weekends at the Chicago Center School

of Music. He says he practices piano eight hours a week.

"I started taking classical piano lessons when I was seven and I didn't really like it at first," Jack said. "Then I started liking rock music and played drums for three years when I was 12. I enjoyed playing classical piano more than drums, and after a while I stopped taking drum lessons. I really liked the melody and harmony from the piano because the drums really just give a rhythm."

"Then randomly my mom bought this Bill Evans album and started playing it in the car. I really liked it and started to research that kind of music. Then I asked my dad if I could take jazz piano lessons."

"Rock is not as theoretically complex, and then classical is a lot more rigid. Jazz is a nice hybrid between rock and classical."



Photo by Emma Polson

Starring in last year's Spring Production of "Godspell" as a Jesus-like character, senior Jack Reece suffered a dislocated knee cap on opening night, May 16. The show was halted and then resumed as scheduled its second two nights, restaged to accommodate Jack's leg being in a cast.

## Double Heat

**What is the best way to escape the cold winter? A warm lamb curry? A southern-style fried chicken dinner? At Rajun Cajun, you can have both. The only restaraunt on the South side whose offerings span both the Ganges and the Appalachians, Rajun Cajun's dual-specialties are bound to please. It's convenient Hyde Park location and our delivery service make it an easy way to warm up.**

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Photo by Aurielle Akerele

RAJUN CAJUN'S great Buttered Chicken Combo Dinner complete with delicious sides caught Dylan Olthoff's eye and ended up in his mouth!



## From Mormons to ballerinas, Italian plumbers to Minions, it's Halloween!



Photo by Liv Rhodes

At Student Council's Halloween Costume Contest, President Phil Healy announced winners in the cafeteria during lunch period. Participants here included Schuler Small and Alex Foster, "The Book of Mormon" characters; Will Leiter, Wilfred from "Wilfred;" Zoe Briskey, Eva Peron in "Evita," and Nikita Dulin, a Christmas tree.



Photo by Stacy Stern

The contest drew a surprisingly big response. Here are Ellen Audrain and Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow, both dressed as goddesses, and Lucy Ordman, a ballerina complete with tutu. Lucy won. "It was not difficult to choose the winner for the solo costume competition since Lucy's costume was so good," Phil said.



Photo by Stacy Stern

Having dressed as twins Twin Day during Spirit Week in October, Stephanie Luo and Daisee Toledo returned to a similar theme for Halloween. "We thought of something that would be really easy but also something to do," Daisee said. The two decided on portraying the famous Nintendo video game brothers, Mario and Luigi.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

Winning the group competition, Alexis Acosta, Natalie Johnson, Danielle Johnson and Maddie Raffkin dressed as yellow Minions from the movie "Despicable Me," wearing yellow morph suits and overalls (Mia Luo, not in the photo, also was part of the group). "The group costume decision was harder, so I resorted to a coin toss," Phil said.

### Poe-tic lay

Rehearsals for the Fall Production, "An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe," took place in Judd 126 before the former auditorium was magically transformed in a beautiful, comfortable theater. Audiences praised the production, October 29-31, as fast-paced and riveting. James Sinclair and Nell Mittlestead were among the ensemble.

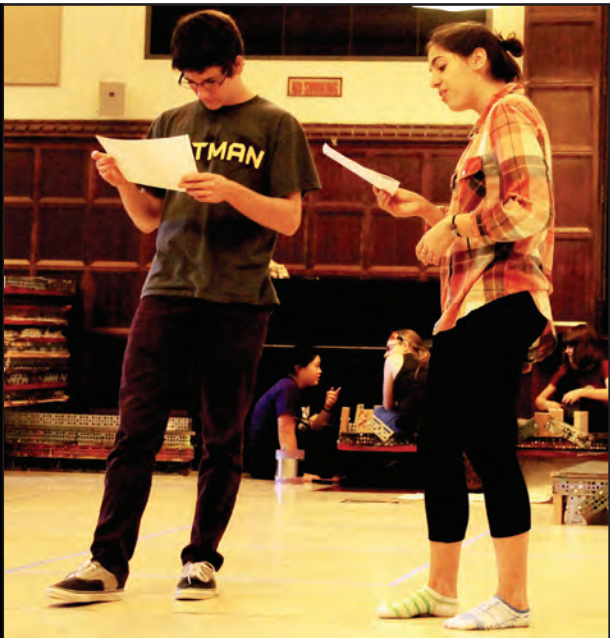


Photo by Fiona Potter

## Eighty seniors receive State Scholar honors

Eighty U-High seniors have been designated as Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission.

Those honored represent the top 10 percent of high school seniors in the state based on standardized test scores.

The honor does not include scholarships but does give the recipients prominent scholastic recognition.

This year's U-High recipients, with the names as they appear in the state announcement, are as follows:

Carah Alexander, Madeline Anderson, Max Archer, Lindsey Aronson, Kimberly Ellen Audrain, Isabelle Berten, Sonia Bourdaghs, Isaiiah Bradley, Noah Braendel, Avery Broom, Thomas Brown, Charles Chamberlain, Alexandra Cohen, Rachel Conley, Logan Crawl, Davis Cummings, Jack Davis, Matthew Davis, James Duran.

Lillian Eckstein, Julian Ehsan, Rosalind Ellis, Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow, Valentina Gallon-Morris, Miranda Garfinkle,

Matthew Garvey, Eric Giger, Maria Gilfoyle, Magdalena Glotzer, Elyse Hain, Alix Har, Louis Harboe, Katherine Harris, Cameron Harter, Philip Healy, Blake Hensel, Anoop Herur-Ramen, Sabrina Holland, Emily Hsee, Kassim Husain.

Maud Husain, Maud Jansen, Boluwatife Johnson, Eleanor Kallo, Gregory Kerr, Jonathan King, Christopher Lawson, Samuel Leiter, Eliot Levmore, Alexander Luna, Mia Luo, Stephanie Luo, Harrison MacRae, Benjamin Marks, Rahul Mehta, Kahan Modi, Mohammed Munim, Arjun Nandy, John Neal.

Tabitha Oh, Luis Ortega Jr., Marissa Page, Miriam Philipson, Alexandra Radway, John Reece, Samuel Reynolds, Olivia Rhodes, Eleanor Schuttenberg, Sheridan Small, Stacy Stern, Tommi Tsao, Julia Utset, Max Volchenboun, Frank Waggoner, Sophia Weaver.

Zhen Xue, Alice Yu, Angela Zhang, Lily Zhao, Cole Simmerman and McKenzie Zimmerman.

## Scholastic Bowl Team tops Kickoff

Motivated by its appearance at the Illinois High School Association State Scholastic Bowl competition last March in Peoria, the Scholastic Bowl team placed 1st of 36 teams at the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association Kickoff November 23 at Homewood-Flossmoor.

The U-High A team—consisting of captain Carah Alexander, senior, juniors Adam Fine and Clare Keenan and sophomores Lauren Onel and Harry Ni—won all nine matches in the tourney. Adam led all participants in the five morning rounds with 510 points, 60 more than the next individual. The U-High B team went 3-4 at the tournament.

Clare, who along with Carah and Adam attended the ACE Quiz Bowl

Camp at the University of Illinois last summer, says the team raised its goals after last year.

"Kickoff was pretty nerve-wracking," Clare said. "We had a pretty good sense of how other teams would perform. We really pulled through and performed as well as we could have."

"When the program started, no one really knew how Scholastic Bowl was played. We were unsure of how to study for it in the beginning, but when we started playing we got better ideas of how to study."

"Going into the State series last year, we didn't even think we'd get passed Regionals. Coming out of State, we understood we had the potential to win State this year."

## Soph serves as guide for Shedd Aquarium tours

By Natalie Holley  
Associate editor

"Visitors look at this really common-looking fish and I speak about all of its cool adaptations, such as its upturned mouth which can spit up to five feet of water with miraculous precision to knock down bugs on really high branches. I show a video of it on an iPad while I'm talking, and, especially with the 20 second clip, I get so many 'Wows!' and questions."

Sophomore Ariel Gans was describing the Archerfish exhibit, her favorite at the Shedd Aquarium where she works every Saturday and Sunday.

**SELECTED FROM** a pool of 200 applicants, Ariel was accepted into the Shedd Aquarium's Young Naturalists teen work-study program this past summer. For her job, she educates visitors through engaging dialogue, videos, and games. The highly selective program occurs three times a year and accepts seven students each semester.

Now, four months after she was accepted, Ariel works at the Shedd 8:30-4:30 p.m. every weekend. From 8:30 to 10 a.m., she concentrates on a research project with two of her coworkers.

"We have to design a guest engagement activity and write a research paper on our assigned animal," Ariel explained.

**"WE'RE DOING** the Blue Cayman Island Iguana and our activity is an interactive presentation called, 'Bob's Journey Home.' It's about an Iguana named Bob and his adventure getting from the ocean to the Shedd Aquarium. We designed it in a way that allows little kids to learn basic facts about the iguana and still be involved with the project."

Ariel's group will present its project to Shedd employees, volunteers, parents, and student workers tomorrow.

For the rest of her workday, Ariel has hour-long shifts providing facts to visitors at various exhibits, including the seahorses, blind cave tetras, axolotls, and piranhas. She said one of the most challenging aspects of her job is memorizing all of the facts about the animals.

**"DURING THE** first few weeks I was working, Shedd allotted all of us about two hours a day to study the facts and prepare," Ariel said. "I made a couple of flashcards, which helped a lot, but it's hard to mention every single fact each



Photo by Aurielle Akerele

As a Young Naturalist at the Shedd Aquarium, sophomore Ariel Gans explains exhibits to guests. In this case the attraction is a sea otter.

time you talk with a guest. You really can't expect to hit everything because you can't plan what you're going to say. You don't say facts just to educate, you want guests to connect with the animal by maintaining interest.

"I mean, it depends on the people you talk to and the exhibit you're at. Because at some exhibits people are more receptive. At others it's difficult because they either don't notice the animal, or they aren't seeking more information."

**AMONG ARIEL'S** most memorable experiences was watching fish, such as the lionfish, have surgery.

"I've been able to see the Shedd's animal hospital which is super-interesting," Ariel said. "I've seen them do necropsies too, these special type of autopsies they'll do when the animals die. They try to figure out the exact cause of death and how it could've been prevented."

Though she has grown to love her job as a Young Naturalist, she hopes to pursue other opportunities at the Shedd, including becoming a Shedd Ambassador, another program.

"I applied in low-hope because they only accept 14 students, not to mention some of those are rehires," Ariel said. "I definitely want to try and be in the Spring program, and if I don't make it, I'll just try again."

"That's really the life lesson I've gotten from this, I didn't get in the first time and tried again and now am in the best program I have ever been in in my life. Imagine if I'd given up?"

**"You don't say facts just to educate, you want guests to connect with the animal by maintaining interest."**

—Ariel Gans



# Musicians experience gigantic state festival

By Elena Maestriperi  
Associate editor

Four U-Highers, freshmen Janine Lu, Will Curry, sophomore Will Kent and junior James Sinclair, shuffled into the cafeteria of Carl Sandburg High School in Tinley Park Tuesday, October 15 to audition for the Illinois Music Education Association’s annual Fall Festival, at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, November 16.

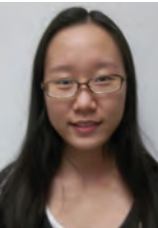
More than 3,000 student musicians from different districts in Illinois competed for a spot in this year’s festival, also in Tinley Park. Between 20 and 30



Will Curry



James Sinclair



Tabitha Oh

musicians were chosen for each of the five categories: Chorus, Band, Orchestra, Vocal Jazz and Jazz Band. Auditions for district 1, Chicago and surrounding suburbs, were restrained to 10 minutes for each student.

Judges, members of the Music Education Association, selected young musicians based on a point system. Those who scored higher than a certain value were invited to reaudition and, in the case of these four U-Highers, ultimately join their designated ensemble. Janine was called back for Band, James and Will Kent for Choir and Will Curry for Jazz Band.

Surprised by the colossal size of the Carl Sandburg High School and the hundreds of other musicians, James said he felt a bit anxious about the competition.

“I got there around like 4:30 and the cafeteria of the school where auditions were taking place was packed with auditioners,” he recounted. “Each individual audition was very personal because it was just you and two judges

in a room. After those auditions, some other choir students and I were put in an ensemble together and we

## Brief-ly: Model U.N. brings home award

With an “Outstanding Large Delegation” award, U-Highers returned from their Princeton University conference at the Hilton Hotel in East Brunswick. West Windsor Plainsboro High School South landed the top award, Best Large Delegation.

At the same time, another delegation participated in a one-day event Saturday, December 7, at a meet sponsored by Lyons Township High School and St. Ignatius Academy at Lyons’ La Grange campus.

■ **DIVERSITY CONFERENCE**—Tired, but elated about their experiences, six U-Highers returned from the People of Color and Student Diversity Leadership Conference December 5-9 in National Harbor, Maryland, a hotel and convention center outside Washington, D.C. decorated as “Winter Wonderland” and also hosting numerous conferences including an Irish Dance convention.

The concurrent conferences, sponsored by the National Association of Independent Schools, both offered themes, the People of Color theme “The Capital’s Mosaic: Independent School Leaders Building An Interconnected World” and the Leadership theme “Foresight is 20/20: Capitalizing On Our United States.”

The conventions offered workshops, prominent speakers, and ample opportunities for delegates to get to know each other and participate in discussions. An estimated 1,300 delegates—students, teachers and administrators—attended.

“It was one of the most amazing three days of my life,” said the only freshman delegate, Marissa Martinez. “Everything went by so quickly and it was just an overwhelming amount of information thrown at us. The people were so supportive. They let us share they and let us listen. We made so many friends and I felt like I could just be myself around them.

“There were family groups, 70 people or so from different schools, and affinity groups, based on race. I found I could share and collect stories that made me re-think life in so many different ways. I want to go again.”

Other student delegates included seniors Loren Sosnick, Jaquell Hamelin, juniors Jarrett Lampley and James Zhang. Six administrators and faculty members also attended.

■ **MAKING HISTORY**—InFlame editors will present their journal at the National Council on History Education conference March 20 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Though uncertain, InFlame editor, Sophia Weaver, senior, said the InFlame editorial board likely will speak about their mission in publishing a history journal, to provide an opportunity for high school students to publish their papers.

Sophia said the Fall issue, published October 11, is available online at the Laboratory Schools homepage.

“There are four papers about religion and Marxist theory,” Sophia said. “They include the Chinese examination system, Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin and interchangeable parts, and tipping points in economics.”

■ **SCHOLASTIC BOWL**—Motivated by its appearance at the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) State Scholastic Bowl competition last March in Peoria, the Scholastic Bowl team placed 1st of 36 teams at the Illinois High School Scholastic Bowl Coaches Association (IHSSBCA) Kickoff November 23 at Homewood-Flossmoor.

The U-High A team—consisting of captain Carah Alexander, senior, juniors Adam Fine and Clare Keenan and sophomores Lauren Onel and Harry Ni—won all nine matches in the tournament. Adam led all participants in the five morning rounds with 510 points, 60 more than the next individual. The U-High B team went 3-4 at the tournament.

Clare, who along with Carah and Adam, attended the ACE Quiz Bowl Camp at the University of Illinois this summer, says the team raised its goals after last year.

“Kickoff was pretty nerve-wracking,” Clare said. “We had a pretty good sense of how other teams would perform. We really pulled through and performed as well as we could have.

■ **UNLOCKING THE VAULT**—University of Chicago Professor Cathy Cohen will be speaking on overcoming cultural setbacks in the community at the Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly, sponsored by Black Students Association January 16 in Rockefeller Chapel.

Professor Cohen was chosen by BSA President senior Portia Williams and BSA Adviser Ron Tunis, guidance counselor, because she has researched the female African American experience in politics.



Photo by Della Brown

## A legend crumbles into history

Clearing the way for the new Lab Schools Arts Wing, demolition of the 111-year-old Belfield Hall was completed last month. The fabled building housed Middle School classrooms, art classrooms, the U-High Theatre

had a few days to prepare and practice a piece which we performed all together at the festival.”

Jazz Band winner Will Curry described the auditioning process as overwhelming, but exhilarating.

“I felt a mix of both excitement and nervousness during

and a Lower School gymnasium. Teachers and students said they could feel the strong vibrations of drills and cranes as they dug into the passageway connecting Belfield and the High School building.

auditions,” Will said. “The judges asked me to play a little part of a piece that I had prepared for auditions, then they gave me some sight reading, and then they asked me to solo on a couple choruses of a Charlie Parker  
*(continues on next page)*

## Economics classes hear from experts

By Julian Lark  
Associate editor

U-High alumni, parents and a Nobel laureate have been guests in Introduction to Economics, a junior and senior course taught by history teachers Chris Janus and Charles Disantis.

Ariel Investments Founder and CEO John Rogers (Class of 1976), Lab Schools Board Chairman, and Ariel Investments Vice Chairman Charles Brobinskoy (1977) spoke October 25 about behavioral economics, examining how personal biases can influence investing. Performance Trust Investment Advisors’ President Doug Rothschild, father of senior Max Rothschild, spoke October 31. University of Chicago Economics and Sociology professor and Nobel laureate Gary Becker spoke about inequality in education December 12..

Mr. Janus said Mr. Rogers’ and Mr. Brobinskoy’s presentation proved fascinating, and hopefully helped students understand the decisions investors have to make.

“They were asking how behavioral insights improve investments,” Mr. Janus explained. “And explaining how understanding market biases can help with investment choices. Even though they chose the topic, this was a nice introduction to the paper Econ students are writing now about value investing, which is essentially trying to find stocks traded at less than they are worth.”

Econ student Lily Olson, junior, said the speakers provided valuable advice on personal investing choices.

“They suggested that you do your research on the company itself before you invest in it, she explained. “You should look at the company’s earnings, meet its executives and management, and evaluate its niche in the market.”

Econ student Matthew Davis, senior, said the speakers were an interesting change of pace.

“Often times our textbook can be dry,” he said. “So I appreciate any kind of real-world examples, especially if they’re well-presented as all of these were. I’m glad speakers are part of the course.”

“We also thought that she would be able to relate to the audience because she works a lot with youth and can relate to the community,” said Portia. “She’s actually the first speaker we have had who has requested to meet with the members of BSA and get to know us and more about the program, so they might be right.”

“Unlocking the Vault,” the theme for this year’s assembly, will address dealing with cultural communities.

“The idea is celebrating the positive events and accomplishments your community has achieved in overcoming the cultural challenges of your community, but not forgetting that there is still work to be done,” Portia said.

■ **CERTAMEN-LY**—At Walter Payton College Prep November 6, four U-Highers placed 2nd of 11 teams in Certamen competition. They were sophomore Theo Ando and seniors Charles Chamberlain, Maud Jansen and Tommi Tsao.

Certamen involves Latin and Greek students competing in a quiz-bowl style competition of fast recall of facts about classical civilizations, people, languages and culture. In Latin the word “Certamen” means “competition.”

■ **SENIOR GETAWAY**—Staying in townhouses in Galena, Illinois, seniors leave for retreat Saturday, January 25 at 8 a.m. While there, students will have the chance to do winter sports including downhill skiing, ice-skating and sledding.

Indoor options will also be available according to Dean of Students Ana Campos. “Sunday night we will continue with the traditional talent show done by advisory,” Ms. Campos explained. “One of the things we asked Student Council was to come up with a prize or privilege that would really mean something to students.

“My goal is before Winter Break to communicate with parents and give them packets, since certain forms must be turned back at the beginning of Winter Quarter.”

Senior class president Lillian Eckstein and other Student Council officials met with Ms. Campos to discuss activities.

“Saturday night we are thinking of having board games and a movie and a blow-up game: races where you get strapped into a bungee cord and race each other,” Lillian said. “It’ll be unstructured hangout time.

“The prize for the talent show may be to not have to pay for student class t-shirts. We may have a grade wide vote or have administrators and teachers vote.”

Seniors will return to school Monday, January 27.

■ **HOLIDAY CHEER**—Several student groups have been working to make the holiday season more jolly.

Collecting toys November 18-26, REACT, a community service group, will make the holidays brighter for children at La Rabida Children’s Hospital. They donated more than 250 toys to the hospital.

Six Community Service Peer Leaders November 21 baked goodies for parents at the Ronald McDonald House at 5444 South Drexel Avenue near Comer Children’s Hospital. Opened in 2007, replacing an early version opened in 1986, the house has served nearly 10,000 families with children at the hospital.

The U-Highers were seniors Lindsey Aronson, Clara De Pablo, Elizabeth Garrett-Currie and Daisee Toledo, and juniors Francine Almeda, Clara De Pablo, Madeline Sachs.

■ **NCTE CONVENTION**—Representing the English Department, Carolyn Walter and Colin Rennert-May were two of 5,000 delegates present at the NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English) Annual Convention November 21-24. Each day consisted of various workshops and presentations, ranging from film previews to talks from educators, as well as guest speakers such as author Judy Bloom.

A member of the NCTE her entire professional life, Ms. Walter has presented at the annual convention many times. This was Mr. Rennert-May’s third year attending the event.

A professional organization of educators, the NCTE keeps teachers current on the best practices in teaching and promotes research to improve the education of English and language arts. This year’s theme was “(Re)Inventing the Future of English.”

“There were teachers from public and private schools all over the country, teaching different levels of English, from elementary to college,” Ms. Walter said. “It was interesting to hear about their teaching strategies and ideas, and about the schools they come from. I liked being able to interact with all different kinds of teachers from different kinds of schools.



Mr. Rogers  
Class of 1976



Mr. Brobrinskoy  
Class of 1977



# A former and future library, currently in transition

## Judd 207 morphs into classrooms, offices

By Willis Weinstein  
Midway reporter

Long windows and ceiling lights brighten Judd 207 as teachers and students emerge from the two long columns of grey cubicles extending the length of the room. The high walls amplify quiet phone conversations, the incessant humming of the printer and the patter of teachers' footsteps as they enter and exit the bustling room.

For decades the famed University of Chicago Department of Education Library, Judd 207, also known as the Judd Reading Room, offered a luxurious study and research refuge when the building went up in 1931.

It also offered a beautiful setting in which graduate students and faculty members could research on educational programs and conduct educational surveys and refinement tests.

**JUDD 207**, following the discontinuation of the Education Department in 1997, has also been used for University of Chicago educational programs as well as summer and after-school programs.

Making way for the construction of new Lab Schools Arts Wing last August, many High School and Middle School teachers' offices and advisories were relocated to Judd 207 from other spaces including Belfield 137.

A temporary theater was created in Judd 126 and a new photography room was fashioned between U-High and Judd, formerly the site of a Lower School gym.

**A MAZE OF** offices and classroom spaces, crowded and sometimes noisy, Judd 207 has proven both a blessing and a challenge.

World Language Department Chair Frances Spaltro is still adjusting to her new office among other teachers. "It's hard to find privacy," Ms. Spaltro said. "In Belfield 137, two people shared an office, but here five to six share an office. With almost 30 people being able to hear you and, it can be difficult to make a phone call, or talk to a student.

**"SETTLING IN HAS** also taken up a lot of energy, and the new space can affect one's ability to work effectively, but I think the teachers have managed to adapt. People have gotten along well. I have started to work at home from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m., whereas some teachers have bought noise-cancelling headphones."



Drama teacher Allen Ambrosini, who shares an office cubicle in Judd 207 with drama teacher Liucija Ambrosini, said adjusting to the space represents just part of the current picture for teachers displaced from now-demolished Belfield Hall.

"As far as getting used to the new office and lack of privacy, there have not been many challenges, aside from having the office being further away from the theater," Mr. Ambrosini said. "However, moving the theater from Belfield Hall into Judd 126 was challenging. We had to divide the room up into smaller spaces to accommodate lighting and sound installations."

**HAVING ADVISORIES WITHIN** Judd 207 can also create difficulties because of a high noise level, said Learning Coordinator Paul Evelti, who meets his advisory within Judd 207.

"Having shared spaces makes it crucial to find good times to have activities in advisory that can be noisy, such as watching a movie," Mr. Evelti said. "However, we've managed to schedule noisier activities in different spaces, so that we can still have louder activities during advisory and allow people to work with minimal noise constraints that might hinder their work.

"We've learned how to share the space well, and as a result we have created an effective, respectful, and accommodating space as a result."



Photos by Jarrett Lampley

Displaced from her former office in Belfield 137, which has since been demolished, French and Spanish teacher Diane Jackson (photos from top) is among the many people sharing Judd 207.

Photography teacher Liese Ricketts examines photos taken by photojournalist Wyatt Dandy, left, in temporary quarters near Judd 207.

## Harper Court

(continues from front page)

believes that on top of offering top-notch menswear, Independence is a platform for showcasing local talent.

"Independence offers Hyde Park, a different option for men styling of all ages. It's wear that everyone can enjoy," Licky said. "Something that is very important is showcasing local talent. That's one of the reasons we had an art show with artists from throughout Hyde Park. I'm a painter and could hang my work, but that would not be giving the community a chance to see the talented artists amongst them."

The developments are exciting for U-Highers that are used to having to travel downtown for entertainment, according to junior Max Brown.

"It's really nice that 53rd Street is diversifying and increasing its restaurants and stores," Max said. "I live right next to 53rd and to go anywhere interesting I used to have to walk multiple blocks, but now

there are restaurants like Chipotle and Kilwins Chocolate and there's even a movie theater. The theater is particularly useful for me because I don't have to go all the way downtown."

With the Harper Court renovation University of Chicago students like junior Tonvi Mago, from Delhi, are now provided with the benefits of a traditional college town.

"Coming from Delhi, what I've noticed as being the key difference between Asian and American commercial renovation is that in Asia it is a never-ending process of renewing while America seems to renovate everything at once, in one swoop," Tonvi said.

"While I am concerned about gentrification I think that in some capacity it is unavoidable. Some local businesses will eventually have to move out in favor of 'easier' alternatives. While I appreciate the excitement that is coming I do wish that I had time to get to know Hyde Park's longtime local businesses."

## U-Highers in music festival

(continued from page 7)

piece. I honestly didn't think I would get called back to perform with the 20 or so other students who were called back to play at the festival, because by comparison, not many people are actually selected, I was pretty relaxed during the whole auditioning process just knowing it would be a fun experience."

Outside of the Illinois Music Education Association, the Chicago Youth Symphony also held their annual music competition for the Symphony's young musicians, their prize being a chance to solo in a concert at Orchestra Hall. This year's winner Tabitha Oh, senior, performed Brahms' Violin Concerto in D Major at

the concert Sunday, November 24.

"When you audition, you perform twice for the judges, and you only play for ten minute periods," Tabitha explained. "If they like you, you are called back to be a finalist, of which there are only six.

**"WHEN I CAME** back for the final audition, I played for 15-20 minutes and at the end the judges announced I had won.

"At the actual performance I found I was really nervous, which surprised me because I've done other large performances and was generally pretty relaxed. Once I started playing, though, I felt a lot better and by the end of the song I was relieved."

## Teacher finds a little bit of heaven in Blaine Hall

By Christine Obert-Hong  
Associate editor

For art teacher Brian Wildeman and his students, Belfield 154 had proven more than just a classroom; it had provided a collection of memories, left painted on the walls by former students.

Almost every inch of the walls of Belfield 154 had been painted, and while the room always seemed crowded with art supplies, and decorated chairs, they just added to the unique character that the room had.

**BUT WITH** Belfield being demolished to make room for the new Arts Wing, its memories in paint are now forever gone.

Belfield 154 originally served a machine classroom with high ceilings to accommodate the pulleys which ran the machines, and tilted banks of skylights, for the Chicago Manual Training Academy, built in 1904.

Mr. Wildeman taught Design Communication, Advanced Drawing and Painting and Studio Art One there. During construction he has been moved to a Lower School classroom, Blaine 117, in a building constructed about the same time as the Manual Training School.

**"I WOULD SAY** that I miss the character of the old room the most, mostly how we could paint on the walls, that made the room itself a piece of art," Mr. Wildeman said.

"And it was a good way of collecting memories. Some students would come back from college to see if theirs was still up."

Mr. Wildeman's former student, junior class president John Williams, said, "I was very upset it was torn down. Both

he and his students made it their own. Mr. Wildeman's antics, stepping into his room was like stepping into another world that I knew countless other students had influenced before me."

**ACCORDING TO** Mr. Wildeman, the Fine Arts Department first found out about plans to demolish Belfield in 2006.

"I was a little dismayed, but not really that surprised, and I accepted it," he said. "The Arts department knew for a long time about the construction plans and that we'd have to move, that we might be in a temporary location. There used to be skepticism that it would actually happen, because they had to first raise the money for the construction during a time when the economy was bad and a lot of schools were in trouble."

Now he finds Blaine 117 a good find.

**"I LIKE THE SIZE** of the new room," Mr. Wildeman said "I also really like all the old features, like the woodwork and the old, ripply glass windows, that give a personality to the room."

His students lament the fact they cannot paint on the walls in Blaine Hall, now undergoing extensive renovation. They say they will miss that.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Demonstrating Photoshop to his 8th period Design Communication class, teacher Brian Wildeman has found his temporary room in Blaine Hall a pleasure.



# The Dean's Days

A photo essay by photojournalist Matthew Garvey

Ana Campos has been Dean of Students at U-High not even four months yet, but in the words of Photojournalist Matthew Garvey, "Everyone knows that she is running around all the time and never seems to have a spare moment in her day."

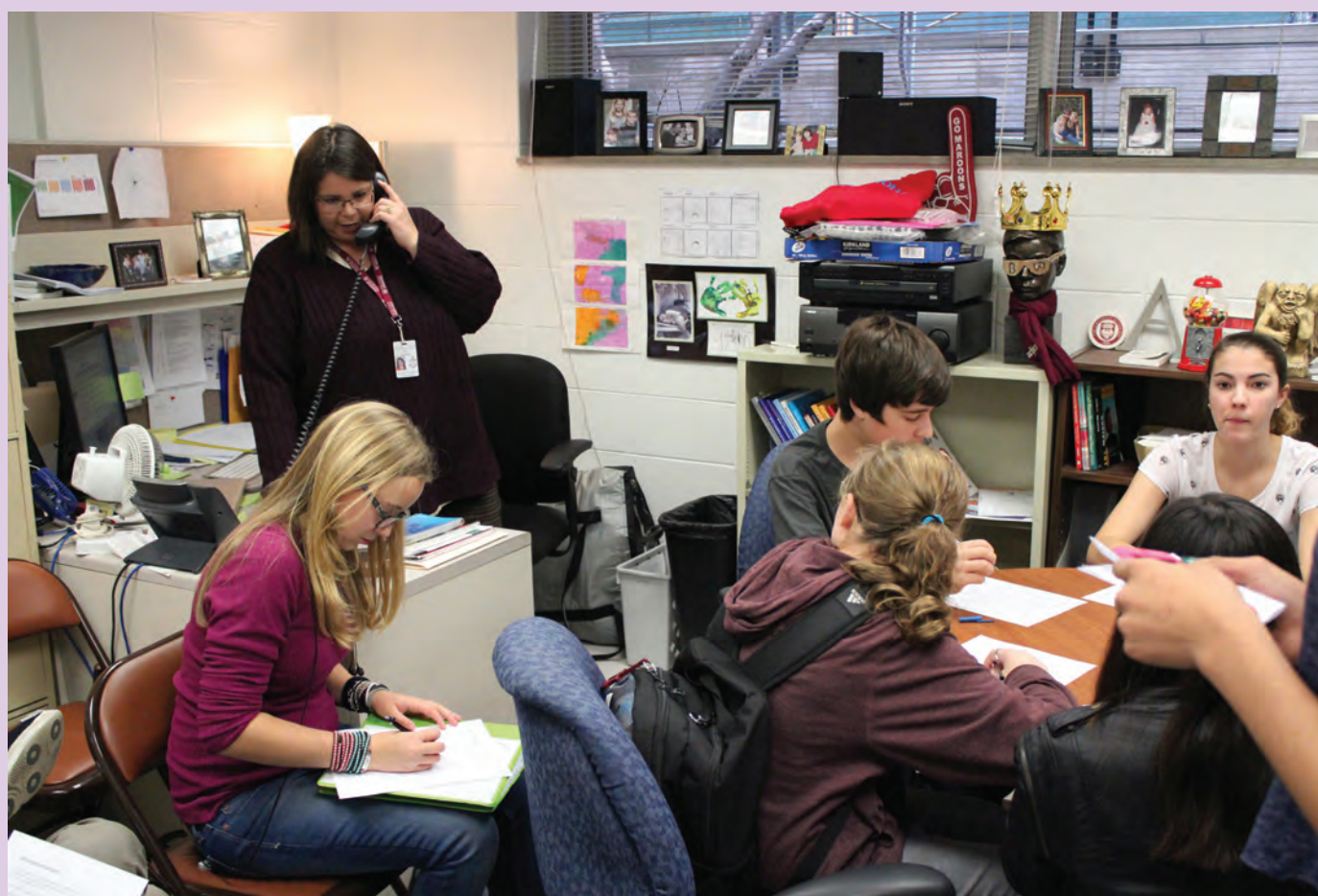
For this photofeature, which he conceived, Matt checked in with Ms. Campos frequently to scout out what was on her schedule. "I noticed that she is extremely enthusiastic about everything she does. I don't know how she does it."

Ms. Campos came to U-High after 13 years at the University, having served as Director of Undergraduate Student Housing, tackling the challenge of helping new students adjusting to living away from home and to college.

Working a long day, Ms. Campos also has an ample commute, coming from the beautiful far South Side community of Beverly.



Nearly every morning Ms. Campos and Principal Scott Fech greet students as they arrived at school, sometimes joined by Assistant Principal Asra Ahmed and counselors. They have a reputation for knowing every student's name. Here Ms. Campos chats with freshman Lucy Ordman. The administrators are also known for lunching together in the cafeteria, a place in many schools which adults avoid whenever possible. They often are collaborating on plans and projects but they also are often greeted by students who stop and chat. "Students can visually see any day of the week that there is an administrative team in place that's part of the school, not aloof from it," Matt said.



Even with her hectic schedule, Ms. Campos serves as a freshman adviser. The advisory meets, naturally, in her office, where her phone still keeps ringing advisory or not. From left are Jackie Walker, Mia Waggoner, Noah Weber and Av-erie Miller. "Her office is a little small, as there are 13 of us but it's also really fun because we're so pushed together," Jackie said. "It's like one little family. Ms. Campos is very nice and she looks out for us."

"The transition has been going well. The hardest part has been getting used to meeting students scattered throughout the day and learning to fit in more students and get more productive in a shorter period of time.

"We live in Beverly because it is the closest community to Hyde Park where we could have an actual house and not just a condo. The long commute is not that bad, only about 25 minutes in and 35 to 45 minutes out. It's a little long but I've gotten used to it. Our whole family gets up an hour early to do it."

—Ana Campos



Supporting and advising student organizations represents one of the biggest and most complex aspects of Ms. Campos' responsibilities. Here she is meeting in the famous Judd 204, with his huge circular meeting table and ornate woodwork with members of the Diversity Board. With her in the photo are senior Loren Sosnick, left, and Guidance Counselor Camille Baughn-Cunningham, herself a U-High graduate, Class of 1984. Here they are sharing experiences at the People of Color and Student Diversity Leadership Conference in the Washington, D.C., area.



As Dean of Students, Ms. Campos also serves as student government adviser. She's been learning as she goes and offering fresh ideas at the same time. She's told many people what a learning experience the Homecoming Dance particularly proved, the first and likely last, dance in Upper Kovler Gym. With Ms. Campos, left, are junior class officers Katie Adlaka, Cultural Union representative; John Williams, president; Maya Ben-Shahar, vice president; and Whitney Beach, Cultural Union representative. "We were discussing plans for the Spring Fling," John said.



# MAROON TIME MACHINE: The past,

By Sonia Bourdaghs  
Editor-in-Chief

**Without a football team** or cheerleading squad, U-High's athletic atmosphere has not suffered.

Although U-High's football team, the Maroon and Black, never resurfaced after the 1924 season, it had many successes during its decades at the school. According to William Harris' history of the Lab Schools, "Experiencing Education: 1896-2012," future novelist and journalist Ernest Hemingway, a student at Oak Park High School at the time wrote of a 1915 match between Oak Park and U-High that "Playing stellar football and fighting every minute of the game, U-High's football warriors earned a clear-cut victory."

**AFTER HE CAME** to the Lab Schools in 2003, Athletic Director David Ribbens worked to keep the sports community at U-High thriving.

"One of the things I've always pointed to is that football started with and helped bring the school together," Mr. Ribbens said. "I always thought that was a testimony to sports at a school like ours that has one of the richest histories of any school in terms of learning."

"That's not to say athletics is the most important thing. I see our kids doing well and I mean competitive. For a lot of people who never see the events and don't get first-hand experience, they say we shouldn't be good at athletics because we are good at studies."

"The track team in the early 1900s was the first dominant team in the school. They got first or second in the state five or six years from 1909 to 1915. They did very well in the early days to the extreme that we had state, and U.S. record holders in the early 1900s and 1920s. We really have a rich history and tradition way back to the roots of the school."

**MR. RIBBENS BELIEVES** policies at U-High promoting a student-athlete lifestyle set the school's athletics apart from others in the country and world.

"Lab is unique in the fact it has a no cut policy; there aren't too many high schools with that policy," he ex-

plained. "From the get go it encourages participation. There is no reason not to join because of lack of skill or experience."

"That means that there are varied levels of experiences across the board. There are some students who take it very seriously and devote time and resources from a young age, and those who do it for fun. There is a dichotomy between those who are more serious and those who are maybe not as serious or experienced."

The academic work load U-Highers receive may also affect their athletic experience, believes Mr. Ribbens.

**"IT'S DIFFERENT** at Lab because so much is expected of students," Mr. Ribbens explained. "For our kids to fully participate in athletics, they don't go home to one hour of study, often to three or four. The attendance policy is different and gives some leeway. People do Model United Nations and math team and can't come to every game. Coaches can't be as hard and fast as at some other schools. There are elements where we are more lenient and accommodating."

"The idea to have teachers as coaches is post 1948, so relatively new. I think it helped because the faculty members know the kids in their dual capacity as a teacher and coach."

"Other countries separate sports and school. In Europe someone who is really good at a sport goes to a sports school called a sports club for training, and a separate place for education. This is very different from how we've incorporated the two here."

**COMPETITION AT THE** state and later college levels helps motivate more experienced athletes as well, according to Mr. Ribbens.

"When you do compete at state there is a whole lot of talent," he explained. "You realize you are one of thousands of kids into that sport. During the 11 years I have been here one of things I've enjoyed is meeting with kids and their parents about playing sports in college and at what level. Every year, 15, 20 kids want to go on and play in college."

Although some U-Highers believe traditional school

spirit in the form of sideline fans at sporting events is lacking, Mr. Ribbens said he believes students support one another.

"I think the kids are pretty intelligent about their school spirit," he began. "Having athletics as a part of school assemblies is one way to show accomplishments, which has been good. The athletic awards ceremony and the fact we brought back the Monilaw Medalists award for the boys and added it to the girls are other ways we are acknowledging the accomplishments of our student-athletes."

**"I THINK** the sports culture has changed in that there is a greater amount of knowledge of our accomplishments within our community. When our students accomplish something on a weekend, I send an email to the staff and faculty and I hope that come Monday a faculty member mentions it to the students. It doesn't have to be overblown, not a pep rally for just one team, but I think it's a more even approach. The faculty is very supportive."

"Would I like to see more faculty and students at contests? Yes, but if that can't happen, we bring the contests and results to them. To me it's important that a lot of people know what's going on."

Currently playing varsity tennis for Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, Gabrielle Clark, Class of 2010, played singles tennis at U-High. She won the NCAA Division III singles championship her sophomore year, becoming the first African American woman to win the championship in any division.

**"IN HIGH SCHOOL** right after you finish classes you go to practice," she explained. "You're with a team and you travel with them and then you still have to get all of your work done and that's very comparable to college. My practices are right after classes in college too. U-High helped me acclimate to a team setting if not in actual tennis. It helped me with some of the outside aspects like traveling with a team and time management."

"In the United States Tennis Association yes you are still playing matches and having practices but it's not as consistent as high school tennis. Playing high school you have to manage your time very well because you are in school from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and directly after that I was going to tennis."

"By the time I got home, ate and showered it was 6:30 p.m. You really have to get your work done and you don't have as much time as other people who aren't athletes or who don't do other extracurricular activities. My college practices are three hours a day and the academics are even more challenging so those skills carried over."

**U-HIGH'S CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITY** helped support athletes, according to Gabrielle.

"Yes we aren't the best sports in the city or maybe even in private schools around the city," Gabrielle said. "Even though our teams may not have done that well in the state, there was still such a strong sense of pride. You feel like you're the best athlete because you have so much support from the athletic



Mr. Ribbens



Gabrielle Clark



Emily Kuo



Mr. Harper



Lillian Eckstein

## Through more than a century, still on the run

*Track brought U-High early sports glory and continues a winner with prestige*

By Julian Lark  
Associate editor

1992, Illinois State Track Meet, Chris Harper, Class of 1992, comes flying down the track as he anchors the school-record-setting 4 x 200 meter relay team.

Now the Assessment Specialist and cross country and sprinting coach, Mr. Harper was part of a team that won first in Illinois. It featured Craig Slaughter, Mark Arnicilla and English exchange student Toby Meadows, who is now a fashion maven, according to physical education teacher Bud James.

**MR. HARPER** won the 100- and 200-meter sprints at State as a junior, and won the 200-meter sprint the following year. His records for the 100-, 200- and 400-meter distances still stand as school records. U-High also had outstanding runners in long-distance and cross-country events in the 1990s, including Dan McGinn who came in with a 1600-meter school record of 4:24 minutes and Peter Muller who came in 10th in state as a sophomore, then fifth and first the next two years. He also set the 3200-meter school record of 9:34 minutes.

Mr. James, who coached many of these runners, started at U-High in 1988 when the boys program was small and the girls program had had a very successful coach.

**"THE TRACK** and cross country teams both had strong legacies when I

came," Mr. James said. "The challenge was to live up to those legacies. Spring of '89 we had girls in four or five of the finals events at State. We were blessed with talented kids at the time, some of which ended up on the record boards in Upper Kovler Gymnasium."

"It took a couple of years to build up the boys teams, and by 1991 we came fourth in State, in 1992 we were second. This was mostly because of talented runners like McGinn and Muller, who ran long distance, and Chris Harper, who ran and now coaches sprinting."

**AS A SOPHOMORE** in 1975, computer science teacher Marty Billingsley was the one of the first three girls at U-High to run track and field. Ms. Billingsley still holds the girls records for the 1600- and 3200-meter runs.

"When I was a freshman in 1974 there was no girls track team, and when my sister and I asked to run with the boys, the Athletic Director was very adamant that we couldn't," Ms. Billingsley said. "My sister was a senior that year, so she never did get to run high school track."

"The following summer, Title nine went into effect nationally, saying that girls and boys high school sports had to be equally funded, and even though Lab didn't have to hold to those rules, the new Athletic Director, Larry McFarlane, asked if I wanted to run with the boys team."

"In the mid-'70s distance running began to boom, So we would run 11 and

seven miles alternating for practice. Runners at the time were definitely getting in more miles, at least on a high school level, than they are now. In the winter we trained in the Henry Crown Fieldhouse, which was then just one cavernous level, with a dirt floor."

**PRACTICING IN** the same spaces as the University of Chicago running teams helped motivate U-Highers, said Ms. Billingsley.

"University of Chicago teams would also train there under Ted Haydon, and the environment of olympians and competitive runners really engaged us," Ms. Billingsley said. "Since then the NCAA has made the rules strict, saying that college and high school athletes can't train anywhere near one another, and I think this really has removed the opportunities we had."

According to the 1968 Midway story, "Maroons started as champions" by Peter Kovler, Class of 1969, in 1910 U-High had what the yearbook reported as the best track team in the nation, led by LeRoy Campbell.

**"ROY ENTERED** U-High in his sophomore year and since that U-High has won the Illinois and Chicago Interscholastics for two successive years. Campbell without question is the best trackman not only in U-High but in the country," Kovler quoted the yearbook.

"The following year, 1913, Charles Cory ran the 220-yard hurdles in 24.2 seconds thus making a world record."

Kovler wrote that "in 1913, Phil Spink

of U-High ran the 880 in 1:56, setting a new world's record, yet to be broken by a U-Higher. 'Red' Graham, a prominent U-High football player as well as pole vaulter, hurdler, and broad jumper, set a world's record for the indoor pole vault by reaching the height of 12 feet 10 inches."



Reproduction by Ken Devine, Class of 1970

Reprinted in the Midway's 65th anniversary issue for the 1968 story "Maroons started as champions" by Peter Kovler, the above picture of Charles Cory originally appeared in the 1924 yearbook. Mr. Cory set the world record in the 220-yard hurdles in 1913.



# present and future of sports at U-High



Before being discontinued after the 1924 season, the U-High football team, the Maroon and Black helped bring the Lab Schools together and were a force to contend with on the field. This team photo appeared in the 1918 year-book.



Photo by Emily Chiu

Getting ready to return her Latin opponent's ball on September 11, 2009, then senior Gabrielle Clark later won the NCAA Division III championships in college.



Photo by Kendall Gordon

Soccer girls celebrated a 7-0 victory against Morgan Park, April 23, 2009. The team included then senior Emily Kuo who went on to play for Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

department and they care about you despite athletics maybe not being the highlight of the school.

“I saw all the pictures and heard people talking about students that became college athletes. I knew so many of those people it felt really good that they still cared about the athletes even after they left Lab. My senior or junior year they started having those blow up pictures of the athletes in Kovler gym, and it was a small thing but definitely a nice gesture.

“The teachers are also very accommodating. I would often miss class but I could set up a time to meet outside of class and set times to turn work in early or late. Even though my college professors don’t do that, it was nice to have it in high school.”

**ALL-AMERICAN** soccer player Emily Kuo, Class of 2009, ran track and field and played soccer for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge. Emily also ran and played soccer for the Maroons at U-High.

“I felt like I was doing a lot more outside school in high school, like math team and other activities like that,” she said. “Having to be able to balance those activities with sports in high school was really helpful in the transition to college because although in college I didn’t do as many extra-curricular activities, that time was then allotted to school work.

“It’s a lot more serious in college, we spent a lot more time practicing and preparing. Essentially every game matters in college whereas in high school really what matters is conference and post season. In college every game in the season determines if you have a post season.”

Having experienced U-High sports as both an athlete and coach, Assessment Specialist Chris Harper, Class of 1992,

said he appreciated the tight knit sense of community on the sports teams he has been a part of. Mr. Harper ran track and field for the University of Pennsylvania.

**“I WOULD SAY** competing in athletics at U-High was a highlight for me,” he said. “I enjoyed the experience with my teammates, the feeling of rivalry, the chance to meet others and develop friendships: there really wasn’t much about it that wasn’t completely enjoyable. I found and explored my passion playing soccer and track all through my experience at Lab.

“Because I had to be a true student-athlete, it forced me to train harder, more efficiently. It forced me to be more thoughtful with the way I took care of my body. Some athletes might be able to sleep off a couple bad choices but I didn’t have that option. I became a better athlete. In terms of being able to support academic rigor at Penn while being a student-athlete, Lab prepared me well.

“I was a lifer at Lab Schools, and I benefited by the fact that I knew teachers. However, I never exercised my ability to learn to create relationships with professors. I had to learn that. It made balancing academics and sports more challenging.”

**MR. HARPER SAID** he appreciates the lower coach to student ration the school has invested in.

“I think that the no cut policy is awesome because you have students who can try out a sport even though they aren’t the most gifted athlete,” he said. “Confidence and time management are some of the benefits

from athletics, and the fact that we open this up to all of our students is great.

“As a coach it makes things a bit more difficult. There is a wide range of talent and participation. There are kids who really committed their extra time to improving, and some who haven’t prepared. Providing good experiences to both groups isn’t impossible but it is challenging.

“There are times where you say, ok, how do we make this work out? But the benefits far out weigh the challenges. I’m excited that our school has invested so heavily in our athletic programs. I’m hopeful that we can continue to move forward and progress.”

**AS A MEMBER** of the swim, basketball and soccer teams, senior Lillian Eckstein said that the effect of sports culture at U-High has been mixed.

“On the one hand it’s really supportive because it’s a no cut policy and every team I’ve been on has been really close,” Lillian said. “On the other hand, our school is first and foremost academics. We put in hours of work and sometimes it’s hard to get recognition for it.

“I wouldn’t have had the opportunity to play three sports at another school because most other schools have a cut policy. I’d probably be able to play JV basketball a couple years but not the swim team or make varsity soccer my freshman year. I would have been pushed to specialize in one sport. That wouldn’t be the worst thing in the world but to me being a three sport athlete is the most fun.”

## Sports stars who left: *How their stories turned out*

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

U-High missed out.

Star athletes throughout their days at Lab, Adam Glaser and Miles Reynolds seemed to represent a promising future for U-High sports teams: Adam for soccer, Miles for basketball. Adam, now a college freshman at Middlebury College, in Middlebury, Vermont, and Miles, a senior at Whitney Young, attended the Lab Schools through 8th grade, but both transferred before high school.

**WHEN HE LEARNED** that his family was moving to the Washington D.C. area before his freshman year, Adam enrolled at Georgetown Day School.

“Lab was a really great place for me,” Adam said. “Middle School soccer was fun to say the least. I don’t really remember very much about middle school soccer, except that it was hard to balance with serious club soccer at the same time. I know it is purely based on athleticism and not so much on skill.

“Moving to Georgetown wasn’t much different because it was a similar school and similar athletic conference to what there is in Chicago. The only real difference was there was probably a little more school spirit at Georgetown, but I may be biased.

“I think playing for U-High would have been great. I really respect Coach Mike Moses and there were definitely some talented players in the grades above and below me. I knew a bunch of the older guys and looked up to them. I know especially the grade above me was a talented grade, and I would’ve loved to have been a part of that and helped their success.”

**ADAM PLAYS** varsity soccer for Middlebury, leading the team in goals, assists, points, shots and shots on goal this fall. He finished the season with nine goals, four assists and 22 points, more points than all but one player in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC).

“Playing college soccer is very different,” Adam said. “The playing style, talent level and intensity are all completely different. I’ve enjoyed a lot of success at Middlebury though, to my surprise. I just won NESCAC rookie of the year and made first-team all NESCAC, which I was really pleased and shocked about. I had great support around me, which gave me plenty of opportunities to score. We’re good now, but we’ll be great over the next three seasons.”

**ALTHOUGH MILES** still lives in Chicago, he transferred to Whitney Young before high and recently committed to St. Louis University (SLU) to play varsity basketball.

“I had a great experience at Lab,” Miles said. “I developed countless relationships with great friends that I still have today. It also really prepared me for high school with the workload, and having to balance basketball and academics. I chose Whitney Young because there I knew I would get the best balance of basketball and academics. I also knew that it would prepare me for college.

“It was not a hard transition at all. Whitney Young has been great to me. As far as basketball goes I’ve had a lot of success and picked up a number of scholarships, so that was a blessing. Academics were challenging of course, but I put in the work and have been able to obtain a 4.0 GPA.

“I mainly chose SLU because I have great respect for the coaching staff and I believe I’ll be able to do big things there. I also think I’ll be able to come in and play right away, so I’m pretty excited about that.”

**ATHLETICS DIRECTOR** David Ribbens wishes Miles and Adam could have contributed to the U-High athletics program, but he understands that they had to make individual decisions with their families.

“You want to have good quality players, but at the end of the day the programs have moved on,” Mr. Ribbens said. “I’m happy for Miles and Adam that

they are doing so well. We could say ‘we could’ve’ or we ‘should’ve,’ but you can’t do that.

“Each person’s situation is very different, and we need to understand that. There have been star athletes that have come out of U-High, so I don’t think you can say that Lab does not qualify kids well for college athletics.”



Photo courtesy of Adam Glaser

After attending the Lab Schools through 8th grade, Adam Glaser, right, went on to play soccer at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont.







# More ‘mindful,’ just as delicious

By Raghu Somala  
Dining critic

When I walked through the doors of Epic Burger in Lincoln Park, I was surprised to find an unusually rustic and sunny burger joint. The restaurant was shockingly quiet, the silence only interrupted by reggae music playing through the speakers and the occasional laughter of kids watching Cartoon Network’s “Adventure Time” on the wall-mounted T.V.



Raghu

Epic Burger first entered Chicago’s restaurant scene in 2011, when its founder David Friedman, a chef and restaurateur for 25 years, brought his menu of non-processed food to Chipman Design Board, the firm that helped found the first concept Epic Burger. After its success, four more were built. I went to the 1000 W. North Ave location.

The walls of Epic Burger are gradients of bright red and orange covered with oil

paintings of items from their menu. The menu itself is quite simple, consisting of an angus beef burger, turkey burger, chicken sandwich, Portobello mushroom sandwich, bunless burger with choice of meat and a grilled cheese sandwich. The unique part of Epic Burger is that the restaurant uses only humanely raised animals with no antibiotics or hormones, which they call the “more mindful burger.” Epic Burger also offers unusual topping options: cheeses such as aged cheddar, horseradish havarti and bleu; bacon; organic fried egg; avocado; lettuce; tomatoes; pickles; and “Epic” sauce.

Since it was my first visit, I stuck with something I was used to, a chicken sandwich. I chose a white bun, cheddar cheese, grilled onions, fried egg, tomatoes, mayo and lettuce as toppings. Along with my chicken sandwich, I ordered a Four Berry smoothie.

After a short wait, the burgers arrived. As I took the first bite, the cheddar cheese melted in my mouth while the grilled chicken added texture to the bite.



Photo by Francine Almeda

Taking a break from sipping his Four Berry smoothie, Raghu Somala accepts his chicken sandwich from server Christian at Epic Burger on North Avenue.

The chicken itself was well prepared and had a lot of flavor. Even though I got the junior burger, with only one patty instead of two, I was full by the last bite. The smoothie I ordered was the perfect

combination of sweet, sour and creamy. I’ve never been a big fan of burgers, but after eating Epic Burger’s delicious chicken sandwich, I am definitely a fan of the “more mindful burger.”

# ‘Thief’ breakout star steals show

By Christine Obert-Hong  
Film critic

Films from the point of view of the living are pretty common, which is one of the many reason why “The Book Thief,” set in Germany before and during World War II, is such a unique film. Death (voiced by Roger Allam) comments from time to time on the events that take place throughout the story.



Christine

Though considered a character in the film and the book on which it is based, Death acts more like a third-person narrator, telling the audience the thoughts and actions of multiple different characters, mainly following the protagonist,

Liesel (Sophie Nélisse).

Distributed by 20th Century Fox, the 131-minute film, true to the New York Times Bestseller book by Markus Zusak, showcases the fear that came with hiding a Jew in Nazi Germany and the hunger for knowledge that was restricted during that time. Director Brian Percival does so by making Liesel’s continued interest in learning and her habit, which the title reflects, of stealing or borrowing books, quite obvious.

Percival also makes sure to highlight the fear of hiding a Jew during the Holocaust by showing the audience the hushed conversations between Liesel’s foster parents Hans (Geoffrey Rush) and Rosa Hubermann (Emily Watson) concerning the Jew stay-



Fox 2000 Pictures

Embracing Liesel (Sophie Nélisse), Hans (Geoffrey Rush) comforts her during a book burning in “The Book Thief.”

ing in their basement. Liesel and her family live in the fictional town of Molching, Germany

The score—sweet, simple and sometimes energetic classical music—, goes well with each of the scenes. Percival doesn’t include music in every scene so as to emphasize the scenes that do have accompaniment.

The cinematography is also simple. The camera follows the characters as the story progresses, usually from above, as if the audience is seeing everything as Death had at the time.

Nélisse, best known for her performance in Canadian film “Monsieur Lazhar,” originally didn’t plan on taking the role of Liesel. The 13-year-old actress does gymnastics, and has dreamed of going to the Olympics. However, once she read the script, she decided to try out, and ended up fitting the role of Liesel perfectly, capturing the character’s quiet but sassy and curious demeanor. *Rated PG-13.*

# Minty cookies provide cheer in Winter’s chill

By Mia Luo  
Cooking columnist

Now that the culinary world is finally leaving the season of “pumpkin spice” and entering the season of eggnog and holiday cheer, these Andes mint chocolate chunk cookies are the perfect way to help anyone into a holiday mood. No matter how grey and cold it is outside, walking into school with a box full of these will get you a lot of cheery smiles.

You will need:

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 3/4 cup light brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg



Photo courtesy of Mia Luo

After 25 to 30 minutes of preparation, these Andes mints cookies come out thick, soft and chewy.

- 1 egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups and 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 cups chopped Andes Mints
- 2 tablespoons milk (if needed)
- 1 cookie sheets



Mia

1 large mixing bowl

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Before you do anything, chop your Andes mints into quarters to make your chocolatey-minty chunks and set them aside.

Next, melt the butter then mix it together with both sugars in a large mixing bowl. Separate one egg. Add a different egg to the mixture, then the egg yolk from the separated egg. Mix them in along with the vanilla extract.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the baking soda, baking powder, salt, flour, and unsweetened cocoa powder. By hand, fold in the Andes mints. This dough should be super thick, but if it’s hard to handle, 2 added tablespoons of milk will make it more workable.

Drop the dough by tablespoonfuls onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Then, bake them for 10 to 12 minutes, or until the edges start to look brown. Allow them to cool on the baking sheet for 2 to 3 minutes, and then enjoy!

These cookies will stay fresh and soft in a sealed container at room temperature for approximately a week, so even your faraway family and friends can enjoy a little holiday sweetness.

# 2013 favorites range from electronic to rap

By Marissa Page  
Music critic

Topping my list of the best albums of 2013 are Chance the Rapper’s “Acid Rap,” “Settle” from Disclosure and Julianna Barwick’s “Nepenthe,” spanning the musical realm from playful rap to experimental incantation.

Raised in south side Chatham, Chancellor Bennett, known more commonly by his stage name Chance the Rapper, released his first mixtape, 2011’s “#10Day,” following a 10-day suspension in his senior year at Jones College Prep High School. The free tape, available for download via Datpiff, caught the attention of prominent rapper Childish Gambino and garnered publicity for Chance as Chicago’s rap wunderkind.

“ACID RAP,” his highly anticipated second venture, appeared on Datpiff in April. A hodgepodge of contributions from artists such as Chance’s contemporary Vic Mensa to Chicago rap legend Twista, “Acid Rap” is defined by Chance’s trademark yelps and chatty style.

Highlights include “Chain Smoker,” which best portrays Chance’s conversational flow, and “Acid Rain” and “Lost,” in which he demonstrates his contemplative side with equal success.

“Settle,” Disclosure’s debut album released in May by Island Records, is, like “Acid Rap,” a patchwork of samplings from a wide variety of artists. The English electronic duo’s penchant for resonant, throbbing beats and hooks make the album cohesive. Strong points include previously released singles “Latch,” featuring singer-songwriter Sam Smith, and “White Noise” with fellow electronic outfit AlunaGeorge, which practically entreat the listener to dance along. The melodic “Help Me Lose My Mind,” featuring trio London Grammar, closes the otherwise frenetic record on a serene note.

UNLIKE “ACID RAP” and “Settle,” Julianna Barwick’s symphonic “Nepenthe” leaves little room for dancing and singing along. Instead, the Louisiana-born musician’s second studio album embarks on a lush, revelatory journey. What it lacks in lyrics and definition of beat, “Nepenthe,” released by Dead Oceans in August, makes up for with raw emotion and anticipation. Ethereal, euphoric wailing and instrumental ambiguity awe the listener into a stupor.

That said, “Nepenthe” is most effectively absorbed with undivided attention from start to finish. The album’s second and third songs, “The Harbinger” and “One Half,” are the pieces of this puzzle that work best as standalones.



Marissa







**KATY SINCLAIR**  
*Jefferson City High School,  
Jefferson City, Missouri  
1980*



**RON TUNIS**  
*Salem High School,  
Salem, New Jersey  
1969*

# When the adults were in high school

*Times were simpler, they said, but social life could prove tough*

**By Clyde Schwab**  
**Midway reporter**

**I**t might surprise you that in high school, I was part of a funny, but tough, crowd that everybody knew not to mess with."

As the holiday season approaches, guidance counselor Ron Tunis, like many U-High faculty members and administrators, feels nostalgic about his time in high school.

**MR. TUNIS** grew up in Salem, a small town in New Jersey, as the oldest child with one brother and one sister. He graduated high school in 1969, during the thick of the Civil Rights Movement.

"When we had school dances, we had them with the white kids," Mr. Tunis said. "The school was integrated, but it was just an unspoken rule that we didn't mix socially with them."

One incident in particular stuck out for Mr. Tunis. "I was in history class, and we were discussing slavery. The teacher looked me in the eye and said, 'I want you all to know that the U.S. Civil War was not because of slavery.'"

I remember feeling singled out, diminished somehow, unimportant. But even though there were some racial tensions, it didn't affect me and my friends much. I remember being happy."

**GROWING UP** in the quiet far south suburb of Oak Forest, biology teacher Daniel Jones grew up in a tightly-knit middle class family with one younger brother.

"We were Baptist, and my family was very religious," Mr. Jones said.

"I hated high school. After going to strict Baptist schools since kindergarten, the transfer to a large public school was terrible. I dressed conservatively and was a nerd, so I was

bullied. You couldn't be different from the jocks or the potheads if you wanted to be popular.

"The good part of high school was that I got to do a lot more academic things, like Spanish club, science and working for my school's paper.

**"I WAS** exposed to evolution, something that, in my family, was thought of as a creation of the devil. I had to say I was learning about it just to be informed, until I went to college."

Physical Education Teacher Nancy King grew up with her older sister and younger brother in the small town of Olney, in southern Illinois.

She graduated in 1971 from East Richland High School, which had a student body of 1,200.

**"I WAS** terrified because I never talked too much" Ms. King said. "There were cliques like in any other school—the jocks, the popular kids, the smart kids.

"In particular there was one group of mean girls that I was terrified of. Their big thing was that they all partied like crazy.

"School wasn't nearly as stringent as what the students here go through, though. I never had more of an hour of homework, and nothing was ever difficult enough to study for."

**WHEN MS. KING** was in high school, professional careers for women were just beginning to become available.

"Even then I knew that I was going to be a teacher. It was the only professional career I could pursue at that time. I became a P.E. teacher because when I talked to the college counselor, he asked me my interests and I said 'gymnastics', so he put down 'P.E.'"

Lively and affable with a bright smile is how music teacher Katy Sinclair described herself in high school. Growing up in a middle class family with three older brothers in the mid-sized town of Jefferson City, capital of Missouri, Ms. Sinclair went to a large high school with a graduating class of 400 in 1980.

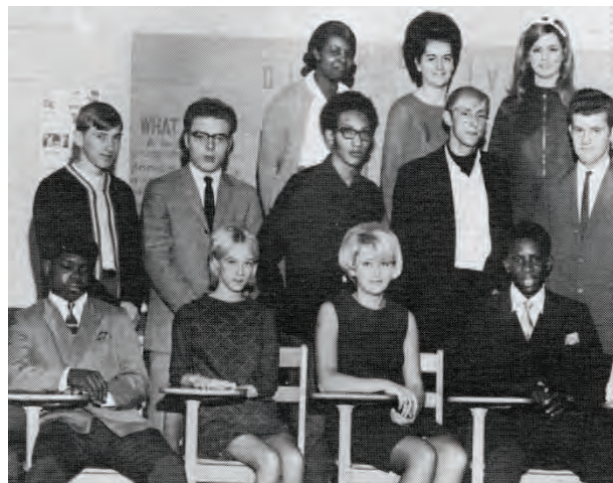
**"THERE WERE** four big groups: the brains, the hoods, the jocks and the populars. I was in the brains with the choir and marching band.

"The brains worked hard at school, the hoods smoked and hung out in the parking lot, the jocks played football and the populars were at the top of the ladder. The lines were pretty strict. You usually couldn't move between groups, otherwise nobody would accept you.

"Because of my older brothers, I hung out with the drama kids, but I also had childhood friends who were popular or hoods. I didn't know where to sit in the cafeteria or at assemblies, because I didn't follow the system. I had plenty of friends, but no group to identify with.

**"BECAUSE OF THIS,** high school was really hard. I never really felt accepted. But now it makes things a lot easier. It isn't as hard as it could be for me to come to new places and make friends. It was a tough time, but it was a positive experience.

"Part of high school is knowing who is who, what is what, and what your



*From the 1969 "Fenwick Papers" yearbook, Salem High School, Salem, New Jersey*

Guidance Counselor Ron Tunis, first row far right, served as president of the Salem (New Jersey) High School branch of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), a program combining school and jobs.



*From the 1979-1980 "Look at JC" yearbook, Jefferson City High School, Jefferson City, Missouri.*

Music teacher Katy Sinclair, first row far right, singing in 1980 with the Jefferson City High School Chorus in Missouri.



**SCOTT FECH**  
*Bishop Noll Institute,  
Hammond, Indiana  
1991*

place in the groups was." Principal Scott Fech attended the rigorous preparatory Catholic high school of Bishop Noll in Hammond, Indiana. His class had 360 students.

"What activities you were in determined what group you were part of," Mr. Fech said. "If you didn't do any activities, you had no social capital.

**"I ENJOYED** high school. I had plenty of friends, and I was part of the more academic group and I was always very involved in the school.

"The clique lines weren't very strict at my school. And we never doubted that we were going to college. We didn't worry about where, but we knew we were going.

"It wasn't competitive then. There wasn't the Common Application. I applied to three schools, got into all of them, and ended up going to Indiana University. But we didn't worry about it like the kids here do.

"I returned years later as principal of the school, by which point I knew all of the ins-and-outs of the school."

## Relationships

*(continued from front page)*

bond has gotten so much stronger."

First becoming close friends, senior Fiona Potter and junior Michael Horio met in their sixth and seventh period AT Biology class her junior and his sophomore year.

**"I ASKED** for her number just randomly in the middle of class one day," Michael said. "I said I needed help with the homework, but I didn't."

"He said to me, 'You look like you know what you're doing in class,'" Fiona said. "Then he texted me, and we never once talked about the biology homework. I think we talked about Miley Cyrus and soccer, something we both have in common."

After exchanging chocolates with Michael on Valentine's Day, Fiona baked him red velvet cupcakes for his 16th birthday February 20. The next day, during Artsfest 2013, Michael asked Fiona out on their first date.

**"FOR OUR** first date we went to the Slurping Turtle downtown, on Hubbard Street," Michael said. "Then we went to go see the movie 'Jack the Giant Slayer' at AMC River East 21."

Both varsity soccer players, Fiona and Michael enjoy watching and playing the sport together, and supporting one another at their respective games.

"Soccer's such a big part of both of our lives," Fiona said. "I go to all of his games. Michael's only been to one of mine but I don't want him there most of the time. It's too stressful."

"We also wear the same jersey number, which is 23," Michael added.

**DATING SINCE** October 19 of this year, new lovebirds senior Sam Adams and junior Francine Almeda began talking in some of their shared classes.

"We met at the beginning of this year, in both our English and Spanish

classes," Sam said. "Within the first week, we struck up conversation and started getting lunch. Things were never complicated with us. We began bringing each other coffee and talking during passing periods, and it just felt so natural."

**"WE INSTANTLY** had a lot to talk about," Francine agreed. "We became close really fast, and we both noticed how easy it was to open up and enjoy our time together. He's really become my closest friend, I can rely on him for anything."

"I feel like people kind of run out of interests in their own grades after a while, and at the beginning of a school year there's always opportunity to talk to new people outside of your grade," Sam said. "That's what happened with me and Francine."

Often seen laughing playfully in the hallways, Sam and Francine keep one another in good spirits during school.

"We make each other laugh so much," Sam said, smiling at Francine. "That's something I noticed when we first met. We just have a lot of fun together. We always try new restaurants and love discovering things to do in the city."

**"WELL, WE BOTH** have really outgoing personalities," Francine said. "There isn't a boring moment when we're together. We love to give each other candies and leave presents in each other's lockers throughout the week, and that just makes the days go by so much better.

"What makes our relationship really strong is that we're really supportive and understanding of one another about everything. We communicate really well and that's probably one of the things I've noticed from the very beginning of our relationship. I've honestly never been happier."



# Warm Winter Wear

Layered up for Winter, U-Highers have been sporting sweaters and jackets, bundled up with scarves and hats. While many put warmth

and comfort over style, others find creative ways to stay fashionable in the harsh Chicago weather with jewelry, headbands and bows.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Simple yet interesting, John Turner Williams balanced a Robert Geller sweater, bought from someone on Reddit for \$180 with \$240 3sixteen st100-x jeans and \$110 Bean Boots.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Borrowing a skirt from her sister Sally, Lydia Fama, topping off her outfit, a jean jacket and space galaxy leggings from Target and a scarf from Modcloth, with a cute bow.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Alexandra Thompson paired a sweater from Urban Outfitters with shorts from a Wicker Park thrift shop and Dr. Martens. "My outfit is pretty comfy and easy to move around in but it still makes a statement about my style. It's sort of inspired from a random picture I saw on tumblr," Alexandra said.



Photo by Daisee Toledo  
A lacquer finish gives Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow's black J Brand jeans a shiny look that contrasts her simple



Photo by Francine Almeda  
A leafy shirt from American Apparel adds color to Julian Ehsan's Levi's jeans, black Dr. Martens brogues and Citizen Eco Drive watch.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Classy yet casual, Ellie Rousos balances a fancy black dress from Peruvian Connection with a green cardigan from Urban Outfitters.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Bold in animal print, Charlotte Elfenbaum bought her jacket from Mint Julip for \$80 and layered it over a Chicago Bulls sweatshirt.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
A \$30 leopard-print jacket from Forever 21 attracts attention to Jamie William's outfit, balanced out by a scarf from a thrift store.



Photo by Francine Almeda  
Clad in hand-me-downs, Luke Murphy dons a dark J. Crew henley that he found in his dad's closet. It contrasts with his bright red beanie and 411 Redwing boots from the Heritage line.



Photo by Daisee Toledo  
Draped over Aurielle Akerele's shoulder is a light red and blue tie-dye shirt from Urban Outfitters, which she accessorized with a dark blue headband from CorePower Yoga.





# MUSIC MAKERS

## U-High ‘Bohemian’ creates own beats

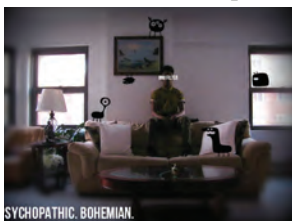
By Clay Surmeier  
Arts page editor

**I** WENT UP to heaven and said this place was mine straight to His face," raps junior Sebastien Labossiere in "God Complex," one of 10 songs on his self-written, self-produced mixtape "Psychopathic Bohemian," which came out last month.

"This is my first finished project that I decided to put out there because I felt that at this point, the only way for me to improve was to see how people felt about my music," Sebastien explained. "This is something I want to do in the future and to do that I can't stop improving."

**UNDER THE STAGE** name Holla the Boy, "Psychopathic Bohemian" is available for free download or streaming on Soundcloud. The title of the mixtape represents a spinoff of the inspiration for the project, Mary Harron's film "American Psycho."

Sebastien lives downtown by Lake Shore Drive with his mother, Florence Desrosiers, a doctor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and his 12-year-old sister, Anne-Sophie, who attends Ogden Middle School on the North Side. His dad, Reginald Labossiere, is a doctor at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.



PSYCHOPATHIC BOHEMIAN  
The album artwork for Psychopathic Bohemian features Sebastien in his apartment.

Sebastien attended Catherine Cook Middle School, just south of Lincoln Park, where his interest in rap music originated.

**"IN 7TH GRADE** 'Tha Carter III,' Lil Wayne's sixth album, had just come out and despite not being too into music, someone told me to give it a listen and I did," Sebastien said as he adjusted his headphones around his neck. "It blew my mind. The next day at school, I went back to the guy who told me to listen to it and just started talking. I told him that we should rap together."

"That lunch we went into an empty room and wrote a quick rap and recorded our first song. It was awful. We posted it on YouTube and it got around 1,000 hits before we took it down."

Sebastien came to U-High his freshman year, where he adopted a more diversified taste in music.

**"AFTER COMING TO** U-High my music changed direction completely. When I realized not everyone here

listens to the same music, I stopped trying to copy popular music and made music the way I wanted.

"After two years of nagging my parents, they got me my first soundboard the winter of freshman year. I'd wanted one ever since watching an interview with J. Cole where he said the best thing for any new artists to do is to make their own beats.

"I took his word for it. Now I use software called 'Maschine' that has more capabilities and overall flexibility.

"I taught myself how to rap as well as produce using YouTube and listening to music by influential artists like Kanye West, Kendrick Lamar and Jay-Z. I work out of my 12-by-14-foot bedroom, where I recorded my entire mixtape."

**SEBASTIEN** released "Psychopathic Bohemian" in part to get feedback. "At first I just emailed one or two small blogs just to see if anything would happen and then after a while it got spread throughout a whole bunch of other small blogs," Sebastien said.

The author of one such blog, Shawn P. of Producers United, gave Sebastien some reassuring advice, saying he has potential and is writing unique material.

**"I HAVEN'T MADE** any money on music yet and it's cost me, a.k.a. my parents, probably around two thousand dollars. Making money isn't really the point right now though, I'm just trying to get better," Sebastien explained.

According to Sebastien, "American Psycho" gave him a better understanding of the power of emotions, which he attempted to convey through his music.

"The movie showed me how psychos would take something to the extreme," Sebastien said. "So basically I would think of a pretty normal situation and the



Photo by Wyatt Dandy

Occasionally working on his projects at school, Sebastien Labossiere uses Logic Pro X to refine his latest beat in the conference room of Rowley Library.

regular emotion one would feel during it. Then I would try to take it to the extreme, completely exaggerating it.

**"I MIGHT COME** up with a beat on the fly but I have to be in the right emotional state to write lyrics for a song. What I mean by that is for a specific song I have to stay in the same mood or have a clear progression. Doesn't stop me from writing all the time though."

Friend of Sebastien and singer for the suburban band Highland Green Sounds, junior Benny Friedman showcased his guitar on the second song, "CREAM."

"I had a really small part to play in all this, Sebastien was just being nice to include me," Benny said. "I have a pair of great speakers and a soundboard with a couple different packs of sounds that we used."

"It's lots of fun to hang out and make some music. Sometimes I'll have a beat that has something that isn't quite right and I'll bring it to Sebastien, he always seems to know what to do. He will listen and tweak it to make it sound great."

## Freshman musician at her happiest while singing the blues

By Elizabeth Chon  
Midway reporter

"The crowd cheered and chanted my name as I walked on stage. There seemed to be a million lights and cameras everywhere. It was a bit overwhelming, but it all comes down to having confidence in yourself."

So said freshman Alex Lund of her experience last year competing in Season 7 of NBC's hit TV series, "America's Got Talent," as a singer and guitarist. Featuring performers of all ages including singers, dancers, and comedians, contestants compete for a million-dollar prize.



Photo courtesy of Alex Lund

Surrounded by influential blues artists including Joan and Gary Gand and Sherri Weathersby, Alex Lund performed the classic "Spoonful" at the Chicago Women in Blues festival last August.

Alex made it to the quarterfinals June 25-27, 2012 in Las Vegas, and was voted one of the top 100 out of 79,000 singers.

**STANDING AT** 5 feet 10 inches with long black hair, Alex is easily spotted in the morning walking into school with her guitar case. Previously a student at Lincoln Park Elementary School, Alex started her first year at the Lab Schools this Fall. A resident of Ravenswood, she lives with her 10-year-old sister, Cali, and her parents, John and Anna Abbey.

Her father, a professional bassist, guitarist, engineer, and producer, has toured the country and internationally for many years with various musicians including David Poe and John Cale.

Currently, he co-owns and operates Kingsize Sound Labs in Humboldt Park. Alex's mother, a chef with her own catering company called Rock 'n Roll Noodle, vends at farmers' markets and music festivals such as Lollapalooza.

**LAST YEAR,** Alex applied to the Laboratory Schools because Lincoln Elementary only serves students from kindergarten through 8th grade.

"As a new student, I didn't know what to expect, but the transition to Lab was great," Alex said. "I've made amazing friends, and everyone was welcoming."

Alex met one of her close friends, freshman Paige Fishman, through a mutual friend over the summer.

**"ALEX IS FUN** and spontaneous, gets along with everyone and is really easy to talk to," Paige said. "She is an amazing musician, but she is extremely humble about it. Her sound is really unique and she is a great songwriter as well."

Playing at fundraisers, benefits, and competitions, Alex started performing four years ago. She shortened her last name, Lundsgaarde, to Lund for convenience when she began performing.

Since Alex was very young, her father has influenced her interest in music.

"When she was little, I tried to keep her ears open to various styles of music by playing vinyl records in the house," John said. "Watching Alex perform is amazing; she really owns it when she gets up on stage and looks very comfortable."

**THOUGH ALEX** formerly took guitar lessons at the Old Town School of Folk Music in Lincoln Park, she began learning independently two years ago.

"I started taking lessons when I was about 8 years old, and stopped when I was 12, when I began performing more regularly," she said. "I started teaching myself by ear."

In early March of 2012, after the initial producer rounds of "America's Got Talent," Alex was flown to St. Louis to audition live for the judges.

**"HAVING THE** opportunity to perform for thousands of people was incredible," she said. "The first song I sang was 'Your Song' by Elton John. My family and friends showed immense support for me. The stage was huge, and there was a red X in the middle, towards the front, where I was supposed to stand."

"As I walked out, I caught a glimpse of the judges and the audience. I felt like I was on the top of the world, with thousands of people cheering for me."

"I loved seeing the vast variety of talented people in one place. The experience

inspired me to strive by working hard, and it also opened my eyes and exposed me to different art forms and lifestyles."

**IN AUGUST** of this year, Chicago Women in the Blues invited Alex to perform with them. Founded in 2010 by keyboardist Joan Gand, the group performs in the Chicagoland area, often featuring special guests such as Alex.

"Joan reached out to me after watching a YouTube video of one of my performances," she said. "It was such an honor to perform with these women, all of whom are amazing blues musicians."

Last month, Alex and freshman Alex du Buclet performed at the Hands Up for Violence Prevention Education Benefit on Wednesday, November 13 at Castle Chicago Nightclub. They performed "One Love" by U2 and "Girl on Fire" by Alicia Keys.

**"ALEX TEXTED ME** one day that she was playing a gig at a fundraiser, and she asked me to play a couple of songs with her," Alex du Buclet said. "We got together to rehearse after school. She is so talented, it's crazy."

Alex Lund also writes her own music, which she uploads on SoundCloud, in addition to being an athlete and actress.

"I have been playing tennis for six years, and I play number two singles for the Lab team," she stated. "I am also a member of the Lookingglass Theatre Company Young Ensemble."

"I would like to continue singing and playing guitar in the future; I want to pursue a musical career. Right now, I'm working on an EP but I haven't decided on a name yet; I'm open to suggestions."



# Medical condition sidelines sports star

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

Just one year ago, sophomore Joey Cohen made the Independent School League conference soccer team.

One year ago, he spearheaded the JV basketball team as the point guard.

But a broken collarbone leading to a severe medical diagnosis has prevented Joey from participating in any sporting competition.

**"IN A BASKETBALL** game against Wells my freshman year, someone threw the ball over my head and when I reached out for it a guy ran into me," Joey said. "That was the collarbone issue. I finally got surgery on the Saturday following the injury, and the doctors told me I'd be out for four or so weeks. I determined to do everything to get back on the court.

"It was about two-and-a-half or three weeks later when they realized I had a heart condition. My parents told me not to be too sure that I'd be back. But I didn't really listen. I got my sling off, and the next day the hospital informed me that I was cleared

with the collarbone. But then I learned I had the heart condition. That was brutal."

While Joey still does not fully know what he can do in terms of athletics, he has begun to accept his circumstances.

**"I HAD MY** summer completely wrapped around college soccer camps—Stanford, Tufts, Northwestern and more. For them to say I'd be done with sports, that was a shock to me. That first month was really tough on me.

"I don't know what happened, but you start thinking about things in different ways. My parents always ask me now, 'how the hell do you go to all these games and practices and know you cannot compete?' I don't know. I really don't know.

"It's something I've lived by. It's better to watch my friends play than sit at home and sulk about my condition. I can't do everything, that's for sure. Things like this teach you to savor what you have. That's what I told the guys.

**"SOME OF THE** players say they don't want to play on a given day, but I remind them that there is that point when competing is over. Some just reach that point earlier than others."

Following Joey's stellar work on the soccer field his freshman year, Coach Mike Moses predicted Joey would impact the team greatly this year.

"Not having Joey on the field this year was definitely a loss to the team," Coach Moses said. "Joey will always be part of the team, and he's still a valuable asset for us. He is extremely respected, even as an underclassman.

**"HE SPEAKS HIS** mind but has a way of never stepping on anyone's toes. He can be brutally honest but doesn't hurt anyone. I know it wasn't easy for him to be on the sidelines rather than the field, but we were lucky to still have his knowledge of the game at our disposal."

Lucas Buchheim-Jurisson, cocaptain of the soccer team Joey's freshman year, handed his captain's band to Joey after the Maroons' 5-0 loss to Wheaton Academy in the 2012 Regional Final.

"Joey deserved a captaincy as much as or more so than anyone else in my opinion," Lucas said. "Joey had more passion for the game than anyone I'd seen in a while. He was vocal and was a rock in the back. He always gave his 100 percent in practice and in games. Some



Photo by Nathaniel Green

**JOEY COHEN** October 17, 2012, in U-High's 2-1 win over De La Salle in last year's Regional Semifinal.

people are naturally charismatic and Joey is one of them. When he talks, people listen. And he knew what he was talking about.

"It's a shame his condition will keep him away from soccer, but I know he'll pick up another sport or activity and excel in that too."

## 97 years later, a new honor for 1916 U. of C. grad

*Paul Russell also was father of five U-Highers*

By Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson  
Midway reporter

Nearly a century after he graduated from the U. of C. in 1916, Paul "Pete" Russell, the late father of five U-High graduates, was inducted into the U. of C. Athletic Hall of Fame October 18.

A Lab Schools parent, grandparent, and great-grandparent, Mr. Russell, an Oak Park native, was among seven athletes inducted into the Hall of Fame.

**AS QUARTERBACK,** Mr. Russell led the Maroons to their fifth Big Ten title in 1913 and made All-Big Ten three times. He also served as a trustee of the U. of C. before suffering from a heart attack on Christmas day, 1949, and dying a few weeks later at the age of 56.

Mr. Russell and his wife Carroll had five children, all graduates of U-High and the U. of C. Dr. Paul S. Russell, Jr., a 1940 graduate of U-High who lives in Westwood, Massachusetts, is a transplant surgeon and the former Chief of Surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital. Harold S. Russell, who graduated from U-High in 1950 and lives in Lake-side, Michigan, is a corporate attorney.

The late Adelyn Bogert, a 1943 U-High graduate, and Ann Ingersoll, a 1947 graduate, were both volunteers and activists. Mr. and Mrs. Russell's daughter, the late Carroll Sherer, was the wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Equatorial Guinea and Togo.

**DR. RUSSELL, JR.** spoke on his father's behalf and read a passage written about his father by writer and journalist Ring Lardner. Dr. Russell's two living siblings, Ann Ingersoll and Harold Russell, also attended.

"The ceremony was really wonderful for our family," Ms. Ingersoll said in a phone interview. "Twenty-six of his relatives



University of Chicago photo  
**PAUL RUSSELL**

came for it, and his granddaughter came all the way from London."

John Davey, a 1956 U-High graduate and Monilaw Award winner, was on the committee that selected Mr. Russell.

**"THE ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME** was started in 2003," he said. "Individuals are honored based on their contribution to the varsity intercollegiate athletic program at the University.

"We sift through nominations, do research about these people and try to figure out who they were and what their contributions were."

According to Ms. Ingersoll, the U. of C. changed her father's life.

"It was a history course he took with Professor Ferdinand Schevill that really showed him that he not only had an athletic body, but that he had a brain," she said. "It was at the University that he really learned how to think."

**WHILE AT THE** U. of C. he also met his future wife, Carroll Mason.

"He wouldn't marry my mother until he had enough money to have a comfortable life, which really annoyed her," Ms. Ingersoll said. "Eventually he became a travelling bonds salesman, and they married in 1922."

Throughout his life, Mr. Russell stayed involved with his alma mater.

**"MY FATHER** helped hire Robert Maynard Hutchins," Ms. Ingersoll said. "Hutchins wanted the U. of C. to do away with its Big Ten football, and because Russell, who was a big football guy, supported Hutchins' plan a lot of other people started to support it."

## Miles add up as math teacher heads to Anarctica marathon

By Grace Anderson  
Midway reporter

On a Friday morning in room U-High 302, rain pounds against the windows while math teacher Shauna Anderson laughs as she describes her plans for her marathon January 26 in Antarctica.

"I actually got started running marathons completely by accident," Ms. Anderson explained. "I was flipping through a running magazine which posed the question, 'Would you like to run a marathon?'"

**"IT WAS AN** advertisement for a training program for the 100th Boston Marathon, which for the first time in 1996 was going to hold a lottery for persons who did not qualify to run Boston.

"I wasn't actually accepted, but when I went with a few friends to pick up their bib numbers a man came up to me while I was waiting outside the bathroom and asked me if I was excited to race. When he discovered I wasn't going, he offered me his bib number since he was injured. It was just total luck."

Since her first accidental marathon, Ms. Anderson has traipsed the globe running marathons. Later this year she plans to run marathons in London and Asia and this January she'll head to the icy continent of Antarctica for the first



Photo courtesy Shauna Anderson

With her medal around her neck, math teacher Shauna Anderson stands at the finish line of the New York City Marathon. "It was about 45 degrees out," Ms. Anderson said.

time for her 10th marathon.

**ON JANUARY 25TH** 120 racers will arrive in Punta Arenas, Chile for the Antarctica marathon adventure.

"I'd been thinking about doing a race in Antarctica since this summer, but the big push came from a couple of my fellow marathoners whom I met running in Brazil," Ms. Anderson said. "The plan is to fly into Chile and if the weather is good we'll run the next day."

The days racers are not running they can explore Chile's National Parks in Torres del Plaine and Magdalena Island.

**"ONE OF MY** big goals is to become a member of the Seven Continents Club, someone who has run a marathon on every continent," Ms. Anderson explained. "Originally, I was planning on doing a half marathon because that would give me six of the seven continents I need for half marathons, but the friends I'm running with in Antarctica convinced me to do the full one."

For the marathon, Ms. Anderson will run 26.2 miles around King George Island. The trip will not only bring her closer to becoming a member of the club because of Antarctica, but also because she will race a second full marathon in Punta Arenas after racing in Antarctica.

"The second marathon is definitely going to be tough because it's only a couple days after the first one and I've never run two that close together before," Ms. Anderson said. "But it'll get me one step closer to all seven continents."



Photo courtesy Shauna Anderson

Next to a sign for a Zambian national park, Ms. Anderson poses for a picture at a marathon she ran in Africa.



Photo courtesy Jason Smith

Countless guests crowded Hutchinson Commons October 18 for the U. of C. Athletic Hall of Fame 2013 Induction ceremonies.



# Youth isn't deterring girl basketballers

**By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief**

Looking to defend last year's Mather Holiday Tournament championship, girl basketballers will travel to Mather tonight for the tourney's opening game. Coached by Tai Duncan and Ashly Cargle, the Maroons return with only three players from last year's varsity squad after the graduation of star guard Sophia Gatton, who now plays for Grinnell College, Audrey Hart, Nadja Barlera, Jordan Davis and Patricia Perozo. Seniors Maud Jansen and Lillian Eckstein and junior Kendall Rallins lead a young Maroons team that still has not found total cohesion on the court, according to Maud.

"It is a really hard transition to lose five seniors and only have three returning varsity players," Maud said. "We're just hoping that the team will bond and get to know each other better."

"Those five seniors had been playing together for a long time, and now that they are gone we have to adjust to playing with new people. Sophia was critical

to our team, and her transition offense was key for us.

"This year we're changing to a more stationary offense rather than speeding up the court. We also have to teach the underclassmen to play our zone defense."

Because only 18 girls joined the team, there will only be one team rather than varsity and JV squads.

"I think there is only one team because the coaches didn't feel like we had enough people to have a JV team," Maud said. "However, they still set up games against other JV teams so that the new players and underclassmen will have more of a chance to play."

While Lillian expects three Independent School League foes to provide the Maroons' biggest challenges, she has encouraged the Maroons to approach each game with the same mentality.

"I think the games that will be most challenging will be against Latin, Parker and Willows," Lillian said. "We can't push off anyone though. Every year is different, for other teams and for us. We're really focusing on winning ISL."



Photo by Jeff Li

Defended by a Kenwood Academy player, Kasey Kozak looks for a teammate in the Maroons' 67-25 loss to the Broncos in the Midway Classic Tournament November 22. U-High finished 2nd of four teams.

## Basketball boys start fast

**By Alex Harron  
Midway reporter**

Eager to beat century-long rival Parker, boy basketballers plan to do just that as they travel to Lincoln Park to take on the Colonels 6 p.m. tomorrow.

The Maroons defeated the Colonels twice last season with an exhilarating 55-48 away victory and a hard-fought 53-51 win on their home turf. The Maroons closed last season with a record of 21-8 and became only the second U-High boys basketball team to win a Regional championship.

The coach that led them to the Regional, Chad Stewart, left after the season to attend a police academy and was replaced by Marlo Finner. Coach Finner, an assistant coach at Simeon the past four seasons, will use his experience with the Wolverines to continue the Maroons' growth.

U-High returns two starters, captains Max Rothschild, senior, and Jordan Moran, junior, along with captain Logan Crawl, senior. Seven returning



Photo by Della Brown

Feet set, Ben Rhind pivots to find a pass around Mikal Muhammad in varsity basketball practice.

players and three new players—junior Mikal Muhammad and freshmen Oliver Maciak and Jameel Alausa—round out U-High's roster, which lost six players to graduation.

Starting the season off with a bang, the Maroons finished 1st at the Lisle Thanksgiving Tournament, ably defeating Timothy Christian, Lisle High School and Chicago Perspectives Charter.

"My last team was a powerhouse," Coach Finner said. "I coached a lot of well-known players when I was an assistant coach at Simeon. I'm excited to be head coach at U-High and work with the U-High team again after previously being an assistant coach at U-High during the 2008-2009 season. It's nice to be back. The team responds well to my teaching and most importantly I'm confident I can help them grow as players and develop as a team."

Although Coach Finner's style differs from Coach Stewart's, Logan says the new coach's program has worked well for the Maroons.

"Coach Stewart focused more on guard and style of play while Coach Finner focuses on lay-ups and good shots close to the basket," Logan said. "He has brought a very positive perspective to the team. Coach Finner does new things like sending inspiring texts to our team each day."

Jordan, who has played varsity for three years, says the team hopes to reach unachieved territory.

"We expect to win the ISL this year," Jordan said. "Anything short of that will be a failure. We just want to take it game by game so we can get a high seed for the State playoffs because we are trying to go where no U-High team has gone before."

Despite coming to the U-High as a new junior, Mikal says he had an easy transition.

"I transferred this year from Hales Franciscan," said Mikal, "I knew many of my new teammates from previous experiences. We all have this slight brotherhood."

JV, coached by Darryl Simmons, has worked hard to come together as a team on the court.

"We have improved due to the new sense of teamwork," sophomore Kerry Vinson said. "Last year the team was more about individual talent, but this year it is more about what we can do as a team."

## Fencers step up after triplets depart

**By Mia Luo  
Associate editor**

Looking ahead to their fifth tournament of the year, varsity fencers will travel north to the New Trier High School Tournament in Winnetka this Saturday.

With players competing in Epee, Foil and Saber, the three weapon categories of fencing, the team participated at the Stevenson High School Invitational November 16 and the Catholic Memorial Invitational November 23, where fencers were scored individually. Additionally, they competed at their first team meets, the New Trier Team Meet December 7 and the Main West Team Meet December 14.

When star Epee fencers Nathaniel, Charlie and Willa Green, class of 2013, graduated, senior Avery Broome worried about how the team would perform this season.

"We've had a lot of great new members on Epee this year," Avery said excitedly. "Of course I was worried when the Greens left, but my fellow seniors have really stepped up."

Senior Elle Hill, who fences Foil, said the team's new talent has left her expecting a lot of improvement.

"New members like Athena Chien, are more than promising," Elle said. "Athena is a freshman, but she has fenced before this year."

"Our hardest competition will be at the Culver Academy Midwest Open January 11, since we have so many new fencers without a lot of experience. However, I definitely believe everyone will do well."

## Dance team reinvents moves with new coach

**By Ariel Gans  
Midway reporter**

Spinning and turning to the beat of "Toxic" by Britney Spears, the Dance Team performed for the first time this season Friday December 6 during the boys' varsity basketball game at halftime in Upper Kovler.

Consisting of six seniors, five juniors and three sophomores, the team welcomed new coach Erin Barnett this year. A Chicago native, Coach Barnett first heard about the position from freshman Alana Walker's mother. Despite never coaching a high school dance team, Coach Barnett wanted to coach at U-High both because of the school's prestigious reputation and her passion for working with young people. The previous coach, Staci Garner, retired for personal reasons.

"I was trained in classical ballet, at the Ruth Page School of Dance, and studied tap, jazz, modern, African and ballroom," Coach Barnett said. "I later received a BFA in Theater Arts from Howard University in Washington, D.C. I danced professionally with several contemporary dance companies and started my own business designing and selling dancewear."

Coach Barnett and the team collaborate when it comes to choreographing the team's routines.

"Last year one upperclassman would choreograph an entire dance and teach it to the team for a number of weeks, making all of the dances student-choreographed and taught," senior Ruby Koontz said. "We were told what the choreography was but this year it's organic because we make it together."

## Underclassmen boost swim team

**By Luke Murphy  
Sports editor**

Boasting a roster of swimmers heavy on underclassmen talent, boy swimmers will travel to Jones College Prep to take on the Eagles 4:30 p.m. today.

Last season, David Tong qualified for State, the first U-High boy to do so in over a decade. With the loss of David, who now swims at the U. of C., and other talented seniors to graduation, the Maroons will depend on underclassmen more than in past years, according to Coach Paul Gunty.

"There is an influx of young talent this year, with the freshmen and sophomores that have come in," Coach Gunty said. "Since many of them have grown up swimming with Midway or Chicago Wolfpack Aquatic Club, they boast experience and good times."

"Another benefit is since they've been swimming year-

round they came into the season in great shape as opposed to some of the returning swimmers that took a little while to return to form. I trust that they'll be in shape by the time the big meets roll around though. Sectionals is what we are ultimately training for."

For incoming swimmers, David's success last year has proved as inspiration, added Coach Gunty.

"David Tong demonstrated that it is possible for someone from Lab to qualify for State."

JV, led by new coach Kate Chronic, who replaced Larry McFarlane, has also benefitted from a talented crop of underclassmen, according to junior Michael Glick.

"The underclassmen have brought a new dynamic to the team," Michael said. "Coach Chronic has been a great addition. Mr. McFarlane helped us develop a lot as swimmers, and Coach Chronic has taken our abilities to the next level with incredibly intense practices."





Photo by Jeff Li

Rising up for a spike, Ivana Jureta slams the ball over the net in U-High's Senior Night victory over Rich East October 25.

# Broken rule leaves soccermen angrier after Regional loss

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

Boy soccer players had their season ended in penalty kicks by Kennedy in the Regional Final October 25, but according to the IHSA that's not the end of the story. Because Kennedy used an ineligible player in its play-off games, including against U-High, the IHSA banned the team from further competition, handing Nazareth a forfeit win in the Sectional Championship. While the IHSA will take back the Regional Kennedy won, the Maroons will not receive the Regional plaque. "When Kennedy was found and proven guilty, their current status went from eligible to ineligible," Athletics Director David Ribbens said. "Number 13 on Kennedy played during the fall season with the Chicago Fire Academy, and he joined Kennedy's team for the playoffs. He's even listed on the Chicago Fire page. The IHSA will take back the plaque from them, but it will not be given to us." Coach Mike Moses says the actions of Kennedy coach Carlos Hernandez took him aback. "It's just one of those cases where the coach must have

# Swimmers set seven records at Sectional

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

Paced by seven record-breaking performances, girl swimmers placed 5th of 11 teams at Sectionals November 16 at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The Maroons, coached by Kate Chronic, finished behind St. Ignatius, Lane Tech, Whitney Young and Latin. Sophomore Maia Boussy, freshman Alexis Porter, senior Magda Glotzer and junior Alex Thompson set the school 200-medley relay record; Alexis, freshman Zoe Rebollo-Baum, Alex and sophomore Ilana Dutton set the 200-free relay record; and Zoe, Alexis, Magda and Ilana set the 400-free relay record. Sophomore Olivia Perozo set the 200-IM freshman-sophomore record; Ilana set the 100-free frosh-soph record; Alexis set the 50-free frosh-soph record; and Maia Boussy set the 100-back frosh-soph record. Magda, cocaptain with senior Lillian Eckstein, felt the record-setting 200-medley relay energized U-High.

# Volleyballers come up short in Regional

By Luke Murphy  
Sports editor

Finishing with a 22-11 record, girl varsity volleyballers had their season ended in the Regional Final against Evergreen Park October 31. Coached by Lisa Miller and cocaptained by seniors Gabrielle Rosenbacher and Ruby Koontz, the Maroons dropped straight games to the Mustangs. After expending nearly all their energy in the first game, the Maroons had no fuel to amount a comeback, according to junior Eleri Miller. "The first game we went very hard and left it all on the court," Eleri said. "We lost that game by a very close score of 21-25. We really started to push hard in the second game and started to close the

gap. We couldn't come all the way back and lost, ending our season." A combination of mental fatigue and injuries caused the Maroons' season to end early, according to Coach Miller. "Honestly, we did not play our best," Coach Miller said. "With junior Ivana Jureta being out with a knee sprain we were forced to change from a six-two formation, which we were very comfortable with, to a five-one. Freshman Averie Miller took over Ivana's spot on the wing, which she was not accustomed to. "We missed on a few key serves which was very unusual for us after converting on over 90 percent of serves throughout the year. We were all around a stronger team, but their passing was better which ultimately helped them prevail."



Photo by Francine Almeda

Jacob Meyer, Max Volchenboun and Frank Waggoner lead boy runners in the ISL meet October 17.

# Runners go downstate

By Mike Glick  
Editor-in-Chief

With strong races from sophomores Lucy Kenig-Ziesler and Jacob Meyer, girl and boy cross country runners qualified for State with 3rd and 5th place finishes, respectively, at Sectionals November 2. Running the three-mile course in 19 minutes and seven seconds, Lucy finished 1st in the girls division. Freshman Elsa Erling also finished top ten, placing 4th with a time of 19 minutes and 48 seconds. Jacob finished 5th for boys in 16 minute and 17 second three-mile, leading them to a tie for 5th with Mount Carmel. Girls' captain Sonia Bourdaghs, senior, said Lucy's Sectional title came as no surprise considering her intense practice habits. "The girls finished 24th of 25 teams at State, as we did last year," Sonia said. "Lucy worked incredibly hard this summer, and this whole season she's been practicing with the boys. She's still a sophomore, but she has all the potential in the world. Her 1st place finish at Sectionals bodes very well for the future of our team." While the girls qualified for State last year, most of the boy runners had never qualified for the meet. "As we waited for the results following the meet, we were all really nervous," Jacob said. "We had been dreaming of going to State throughout the season. "When they announced we tied for 5th place at Sectionals, we just all looked at each other and started screaming. We didn't finish in last at State, placing 26th of 27."

# As ISL's only Hyde Park school, U-High lacks true rival

By Mike Glick  
Sports columnist

Ask any U-High athletes to name U-High's main conference rivals, and they will likely tell you Parker or Latin, maybe even North Shore or Northridge. While U-High athletes may feel these rivalries have proven passionate, it is important to note that since the closing of Harvard St. George High School in 1993, the Independent School League has housed only one school in Hyde Park: U-High. Throughout the past two decades, U-High sports teams have engaged in thrilling competition with ISL teams. Yet, U-High's distance from the other schools in the ISL has restricted the Maroons from having rivalries comparable to Parker and Latin's and North Shore and Northridge's. Though Harvard St. George only fielded basketball and baseball teams, the rivalry between the Hurricanes and U-High's Maroons proved bitter. According to U-High alum and current soccer coach



Mike

Mike Moses, U-High improved in basketball to begin a competitive rivalry. "When we'd go to play at their gym, it was always freezing," Mr. Moses, a three-sport athlete at U-High, said. "They didn't have much heat in there, and they didn't have any bleachers for people to sit in. But when we played at home it was completely different. That's what made it such an intense rivalry. It was two Hyde Park teams going at it." Former North Shore star soccer and basketball player Jamie Swimmer suggested that a school's location plays a prominent role in determining its rivals. "Our rivals at North Shore are pretty similar across the board for sports," Jamie said. "Northridge was a huge rival for us for soccer and basketball, and that was enhanced by the fact that our schools are pretty close together. There are more fans at those games because it's so easy for fans from both schools to get there, and that brings out the rivalry. That's what makes the Parker-Latin rivalry so great, too. The schools are close together, so everyone can come." Even though Parker lies much closer to Latin than U-High, Mr. Moses says U-High still treated Parker as

their main soccer rival when he attended U-High. "Parker was definitely our main rival when I was at U-High," Mr. Moses said. "Most of the kids who went to Lab back then were from the south side of Chicago, so it was a battle between north and south with Parker. The strength of the rivalry is still there, but the players have a different mentality now in the games. It's less of a battle between north and south because guys know the players from the other school. There is less of the 'I hate.' " While Mr. Moses feels the rivalry arouses less friction now, senior Jon King, who plays soccer and basketball, feels the competitiveness remains. "Parker is definitely our biggest rival for basketball and soccer," Jon said. "For soccer our next biggest rival is probably Latin, but really after Parker the other ISL teams we just want to beat to compete for the ISL title. With Parker it's more personal. "Parker came to our home and beat us by 30 my sophomore year in basketball, and there's definitely still hurt from that. A lot of the current varsity members were on that team, so it just feels that much better when we beat them now."



# Windy City Wonderland



oliday decor abounds in full glory in Chicago from Christkindlmarket—where German students enjoyed a field trip, to Lincoln Park Zoo Lights, to the menorah in Daley Plaza, lit last month for Hanukkah.



Photo by Liv Rhodoe

Rotating photos of the historic 45-foot tall Christmas tree inside Macy's on State Street, formerly known as Marshall Fields, are presented in the first window with the theme this year as "The Magic of Christmas at State Street Through the Years."

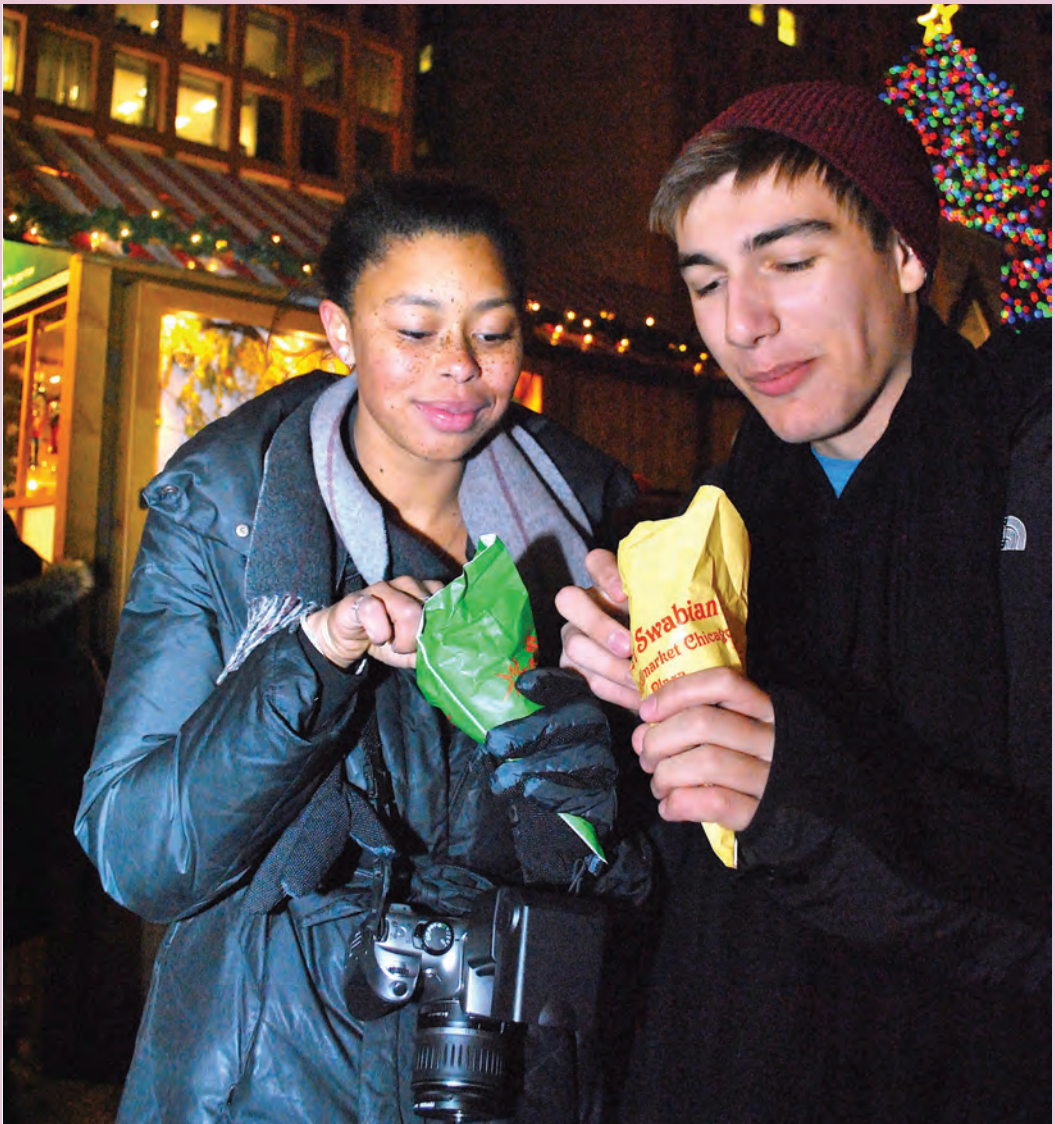


Photo by Aurielle Akerele

Salted, savory nuts from vendor Swabian Sweets at the German Christmas market, Christkindlmarket, delight Alexandra Thompson and Ross Tizes. "The nuts were so yummy!" Alexandra said. "And the market was so beautiful it really put me in the mood for holiday spirit." The market, in Daley Plaza, will remain open through December 24.



Photo by Aurielle Akerele

The Chicago Theater with its famous marquee aglow, hosted a November holiday children's concert featuring Folk and Rock band Amos Lee, sponsored by radio station 93XRT.



Photo by Liv Rhodes

The well-known, extravagant mosaic ceiling in Macy's on State Street, originally called Marshall Fields, was replicated in one of its windows for its 46th year of extravagant displays and animated scenes. The theme this year showcased Christmas decorations of past years at the landmark store. This window shows a worker putting up decorations on a tree.



Photo by Carl Fohran

Ornaments caught Alexandra and Ross's eyes in Christkindlmarket. "Alex and I stopped and look at the ornaments for a long time, they were so beautiful and intriguing," Ross said.



Photos by Liv Rhodes, left and center, and Aurielle Akerele, right

Other elegant holiday decorations U-Highers enjoyed included dangling snowflakes and Christmas lights indoor at Macy's on State Street, the menorah for Hannukah in Daley Plaza, and bright-colored, star-shaped lanterns at the Christkindlmarket. Also in Daley Plaza, an 8-foot-tall "A" inclusively represented Atheists.