



Photo courtesy of Rahul Mehta

Thirty-five Intel Science Search finalists, including U-High's Rahul Mehta, met with President Barack Obama at the White House for about 20 minutes. They talked about their projects, their futures and the importance of STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

A scientific adventure

By Grace Anderson
Midway reporter

Drumming his fingers against the side of his wooden chair, senior Rahul Mehta, an Intel Science Finalist, faced four empty chairs in a small, brightly lit, white conference room in the Regis Hotel on the morning of Friday, March 7 for his judging interview. Soon, judges with PhDs in fields ranging from physics to astronomy, such as Dr. Balamurali Ambati, entered the room and drilled Rahul with questions on anything and everything related to science.

Alongside 39 other finalists, Rahul represented more than 1,700 students who participated at the Intel Science Talent Search Finals, sponsored by the Society and Science for the Public, from March 6-12. Judges selected finalists based on written presentations of their projects, which ranged from developing a set of optical tweezers to personalizing cancer treatments according to the rate and location of a tumor's spreading.

FINALS FOCUSED on intensive individual interviews and poster presentations at the National Geographic Society Building to both the public and judges who volunteered their services and had at least six years of professional experience as well as a B.A., M.D. or Ph.D. The winner received \$100,000 out of a total prize of \$630,000 distributed among 10 runners.

"On Friday and Saturday we had five 30-minute interviews which were conducted by a rotating panel of 3-4 judges," Rahul said, explaining the judging process. "They actually tried to ask us questions in areas that weren't even related to our area of research. Since my research focused on computer science and math, the majority of my questions were in biology and chemistry."

"At first I thought I was going to be nervous for the judging interviews, but then I realized that it would be better just to go ahead and have fun with it. The judging interviews ended up being quite interesting; the questions were well thought out and they were good thought exercises to work my way through."

BETWEEN INTERVIEWS Friday, March 7, finalists gathered at the White House in the luxurious state dining room, for a meeting with the President of the United States.

"It was extremely fun. We all congregated and President Obama spoke to us for about 20 minutes about our projects, our futures and the importance of STEM education to his administration. After that we each got to shake his hand, individually introduce ourselves and take a picture with him. It turned out that he was headed out of the country so we actually got to watch him take off in Marine One, his helicopter."

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U-High has long Science Talent Search history

By David Hedges
Midway reporter

The fifth University High School student to make the finals, Rahul Mehta adds to a history of success at the Intel Science Talent Search.

A year ago, Lane Gunderman, now a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, advanced to the competition's Finals and won a total of \$8,500 for his computer stimulation of the hypothesized motion of molecules in photosynthesis.

EACH YEAR, 300 Semifinalists who have done exceptional work on an independent research project are selected by PhD scientists, mathematicians, or engineers in the subject area of the entry, according to the Society for Science's website. A subsequent 40 finalists travel to Washington D.C. and compete for the top 10 awards.

The Society for Science and the Public and the Westinghouse Electric Corporation created the competition in 1942. Originally titled the Westinghouse Science Talent Search, Intel took over the majority sponsorship from Siemens which had bought Westinghouse, and in 1998 the name became the Intel Science Talent Search. Since the program's founding, millions of dollars of scholarships have been awarded to the 2,920 final ists and

22,071 semifinalists.

The first U-Higher to be named a finalist in the competition, in 1985, going on to win second-place, was Annie Penn '85. That year, she also won the Museum of Science and Industry's Outstanding Young Scientist award and went to the Nobel Prize ceremonies in Stockholm to receive the Bausch and Lomb award.

FOR HER SECOND-PLACE position, Ms. Penn received \$10,000 in D.C. for a project in which she produced clones of viral genetic materials to make a gene map for studying viral reproduction in cells. Ms. Penn was greeted as a celebrity back in Chicago, with multiple news agencies doing features on her. According to a feature in the Chicago Tribune, Ms. Penn also was a ballet and jazz dancer in high school.

She told the Midway that she would use her scholarship to Harvard to "major in a biological science. Eventually, I'd like to get a PhD and do research".

Two years later, Louise Chang, 1987, claimed the 1st prize in D.C. at the Science Search. She spent two years on cancer research, isolating three abnormal genes and found evidence that one gene produces a protein-destroying enzyme that could contribute

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Freshmen find they rose to challenge of workload

By Marissa Martinez and Eliana Waxman
Midway reporters

While freshman year seemed daunting in September, by Winter Quarter, freshmen felt they finally were getting the hang of school.

Freshman class president Mat Ferraro came from Chicago City Day School on the North Side. He found that he could quickly keep up with the fast paced courses because he knew what to expect.

"**I REALLY LIKE** a challenge," he said. "I came to Lab because the classes here are more my speed. With the fast paced curriculum, being organized is really important. I learned to make homework plans, which helped me manage my time and stress more effectively since September."

Lab Lifer Sarah Markovitz said that she was prepared for the potential stress of high school. "I don't feel like there's a lot of homework, not as much as people say there is. I do many extracurricular activities like Chinese school and piano, and I can finish my homework, all before eleven at night."

Elisabeth Schmidt-Ott came to Lab from Germany to visit her father in January, and admits that it was a big shift.

"**THERE ARE** differences between here and my German school," Elisabeth said. "For example, in Germany, I only had about an hour of homework on average, when I wasn't studying for tests. I had free time, and could balance extracurricular activities and homework. When I go back, I'll be very relaxed. One hour of homework a day will be easier to handle, compared to my experiences here."

"Here, in addition to studying for big tests, I get up to five hours' worth of homework to do. My organization has gotten better since I arrived here. The students are very motivated at this school, so that helps me keep up with my work. U-High is a really great experience, and I'm glad I came here."

Sarah agrees that the drive adds a lot to the high school process. "There are definitely pressures here to do well,"

(continues on page 5)



Mat



Sarah



Elisabeth



Photo courtesy Angelina Scarangella

Connecting

With 955 people attending and an estimated near \$900,000 raised for Lab Schools Scholarships, this year's "Connections" benefit dinner, dance and auction March 8 received universal praise as an elegant and fun evening with fine dining and excellent student entertainment. The glamorous setting of the historic Navy Pier Grand Ballroom rang with conversation and laughter all evening.

With University of Chicago President Robert J. Zimmer, himself a former Lab Schools parent, serving as chairman, parents Kate Collins and Christopher McGowan served as vice chairmen, working with the Lab Schools Development Office. All were praised for their dedicated planning and hard work. The evening honored Lab Schools Director David Magill, retiring the end of this year, and Lab Schools Board President John Rogers, Class of 1976, celebrating their collaboration over the years.

Entertainment include the Dance Team (pictured), sophomore David Hedges playing a violin concerto accompanied by pianist Sandro Tsomaia, and freshman Alex Lund, singer and guitarist.

Teaching in Ukraine, sent home, U-High grad awaits next chapter

By John Williams
Midway reporter

With tensions high between Russia and Ukraine over Russia’s possession of the Crimean Peninsula, Graham Salinger, Class of 2008, has been waiting to learn if he will be allowed to return to the white-washed walls of Gas Pipeline School and the grey concrete architecture of Novopskov, Ukraine.

For 18 months volunteering through the Peace Corps in Novopskov, Ukraine, Mr. Salinger taught English to 3rd- through 10th-grade students. Because of the potential for violence and ambiguity of security in the area, he was returned February 24 to his home in Washington, D.C.

NOW 23, Mr. Salinger was born in New York City. His family moved to Chicago when he was two years old after his father got a position fundraising for the University of Chicago.

In Middle School, Mr. Salinger joined the Lab Schools’ basketball team, where one of his teammates brought him to Barack Obama’s rally for his campaign for Illinois State Senator and gave him his first exposure to local politics, he said.

“We did it for campaign experience. We were interested and just wanted to see what a campaign was like, see people involved in politics and issues people in Illinois were talking about.

“**I REALLY BECAME** interested in politics when ‘The West Wing’ came on TV. That was when I really found myself interested in what politicians were saying, and with how they could affect people. When my friend invited me to volunteer with the Obama campaign, I thought ‘why not?’. I learned very quickly that government should work for people and it was through this experience that I discovered my calling to public service, to be part of something more important than myself.”

After graduating from U-High in 2008, Mr. Salinger attended American University in Washington D.C., studying politics and government.



Photo courtesy of Graham Salinger

Teaching in Ukraine for a year-and-a-half on a Peace Corps assignment, Graham Salinger, Class of 2008, found both the familiar and unfamiliar during his experience.

“What interested me about politics was the
(continues on page 6)

Blaine Hall veterans find changes interesting, unsettling

By Clyde Schwab
Midway reporter

Surprise, disappointment, and nostalgia from U-Highers have greeted renovations recently completed in eastern Blaine Hall.

During a cloudy mid-March week, several Lifers (students who have been at the Lab Schools since Nursery School or kindergarten) toured the renovated East Wing of Blaine and shown the newly renovated area.

CONSTRUCTION IN Blaine, part of a schoolwide modernization, has included classroom renovations, redesigns and re-configurations, removal of some rooms within rooms, and movement of the eastern Blaine staircase to make way for a new exit.

Several facilities previously housed in the West Wing of Blaine last month were moved to the East Wing, with construction beginning

on the West Wing, including the Nurse’s Office, the Lower School office and the Lower School Principal’s Office.

“There was a lot we attempted in Blaine, and there was lots of built in casework that we tried to keep but was in poor shape so we had to redo it or get rid of it entirely,” Lab Schools Associate Director David Stafford said.

“There’s a lot to contend with when trying to update a building like this.”

AMONG THE LIFERS getting a Blaine preview, senior Julian Ehsan, observing the freshly painted walls and hardwood floors, recounted his days in the Lower School.

“The building definitely had an aged look to it, but it was really nice to be in unique rooms with so much history,” Julian said.

“I think they did a pretty good job in keeping the same style of the rooms, modernizing the necessities and not adding too much extra fluff. It doesn’t look exactly like the old Lab, but I think that the old place needed an update, and it looks pretty good.”

Senior Sam Kaplan said the majesty of Blaine made a lasting impression on him.

“**I LIKE** the new renovations. “The floors look really great, and the classrooms are pretty sweet. It will be great to have air conditioning, plus the building was decaying.

“Lots of the memories I have of Blaine are in the library. I remember progressing through the different librarians for story time as we grew up, and how they would always make the joke that the carpet was shrinking as we got older.

“There was a sense of history in every room. You could see the steps and where people had walked on them and know how many people had stepped there.”

SENIOR NATALIE KAMPF remembered Blaine classrooms as spacious and comfortable.

“I always liked the old classrooms the way they were,” she said. “The new ones are smaller, and some don’t have two parts, a front room and a small back room.

“I remember being able to go into the back room to read, and I think that the teachers might like the new classrooms less because



Photo by Francine Almeda

Seniors Natalie Kampf, Julian Ehsan and Sam Kaplan survey the newly-transformed Blaine Hall.

they have less space. Now it looks more modern. But I understand that the classrooms needed to be updated and that renovations were necessary.

“I always remembered feeling very at home. The rooms had a very cozy feeling to them.”

AS SENIOR Alex Cohen stared astonished at the new walls, classrooms and stairwells of Blaine East, she noted that although the change is apparent, it won’t necessarily change the experience of Blaine.

“The renovations themselves seem weird,” Alex said. “A completely modern design. The white halls feel like a hospital, and without the artwork everything just feels a bit blank. But the changes don’t make Blaine worse; it is just a little different.

“My experience in Blaine wasn’t completely affected by the old atmosphere that it had. The atmosphere was really only a side part of it. The actual teaching, learning and community was what made the experience so great for me, not the feel.”

Seniors reach national scholarship finals

Sixteen U-High seniors have been designated Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship program and two are finalists in the National Achievement program. Among them, Carah Alexander is a finalist in both programs. Finalists are eligible for scholarships in the program. The finalists are as follows.

MERIT—Carah Alexander, Max Archer, Sonia Bourdaghs, Avery Broome, Thomas Brown, Philip Healy, Emily Hsee, Eliot Levmore, Mia Luo, Mohammed Munim, Tabitha Oh, Marissa Page, Alexandra Radway, Julia Utset, Emily Xiao, Alice Yu.

ACHIEVEMENT—Carah Alexander, Boluwatife Johnson.

Spring has Sprung!



Photo by Fiona Potter

Take a tip from Jiji Plecha and Nikita Dullin and celebrate the joys of a beautiful Spring day or evening dining at the Medici, either inside or on our beautiful rooftop.

After a truly terrible Chicago winter, celebrate the return of sunny, warm days at the Medici. Enjoy our famous fresh made Crossiants or share our deep dish pizza with a group of friends. Come on over during open periods. We are just a block away and you are just five minutes from a delicious treat on a beautiful day!



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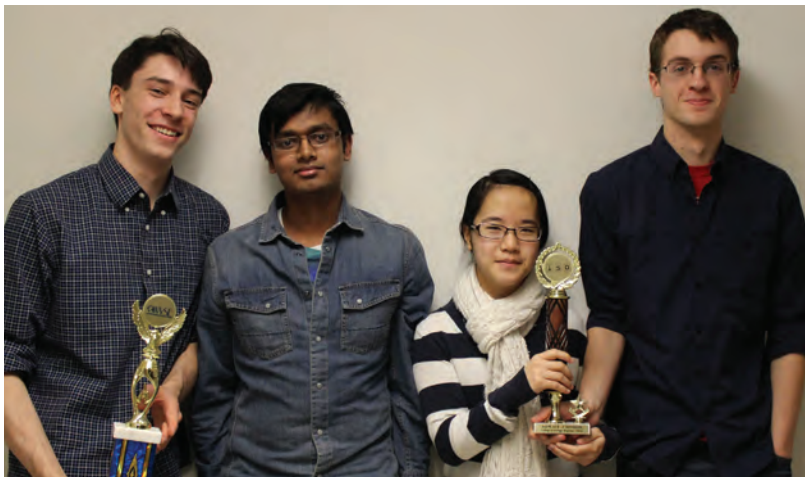


Photo by Monica Valenzuela

Victorious, Science Team members Charles Chamberlain, Arjun Nandy, Angela Zhang and Max Archer display trophies from Regionals and the Fenwick High School tournament.

Science Team proceeds to State

By Micaiah Buhheim-Jurisson
Midway reporter

Competing in topics ranging from Anatomy to Geologic Mapping, Science Team’s International Science Olympiad (ISO) team placed 3rd at Regionals, Saturday, March 8 at College of DuPage. The team’s performance advances them to State this Saturday, April 12 at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Completing written tests, events involving experimentation and events involving building mechanisms, the ISO team brought 33 competitors to Regionals, placing behind Waubonsie Valley High School in 2nd and Hinsdale Central in 1st. The build events performed unusually well, according to ISO Deputy Captain Jay Dhanoa, junior.

“We had some very tough competitors,” Jay said. “Since we’re in a larger division, many of the schools were much larger than U-High. However, our team as a whole competed very well- particularly our build events, which had a far stronger performance than in past years.”

ISO results for U-High varsity competitors were as follows:

Jay Dhanoa and Malika Ramani, 6th, Anatomy and Physiology; Justin Whitehouse and Jay Dhanoa, 3rd, Astronomy; Raghu Somala and Walker Melton, 6th, Circuit Lab; Walker Melton and Rajan Aggarwal, 2nd, Compound Machines. Malika Ramani

(continues on page 5)

Scholastic Bowl looks to overcome hard loss

By Maia Boussy
Associate editor

After its loss at IHSA State in Peoria Wednesday, March 21, the Scholastic Bowl team competed Saturday, April 5 at Duel of National Tournament Qualified Illinois Teams (DONTQUIT) (results came after Midway deadline) and will compete Saturday, April 26 at the April Tournament Run On Pennies, Half Pence, and Yen (ATROPHY) at Northern Illinois University.

At State, sophomores Lauren Onel, Nigel Van Ha, Harry Ni, Daniel Zhu; juniors Clare Keenen, Adam Fine, Raghu Somala, and senior Carah Alexander answered questions from several categories ranging from mythology to philosophy.

Despite losing their three rounds, vice president Clare believes the U-Highers still competed well.

“We should have performed better, but given that we just moved up to the top division this year,

we’re content with having qualified for State,” Clare said. “We lost three rounds but were close on two of them. I am also really excited to be nominated to the All Sectional team and that Adam was nominated to All State. The coaches vote on who should be on the All Sectional team, and from the All Sectional team, a committee selects the top 10 for the First All State team and the second 10 for the Second team.”

Carah, Scholastic Bowl president, said of the State competition, “I was disappointed with the quality of the questions. Because they began with fairly obvious clues, the questions didn’t reward those who studied well. This made rounds be decided mostly by the speed at which you buzzed in. Also, some of the information in the questions was misleading.

“I think next year, the writers will learn from the experience and with a decent question set, so the team will do better.”

Debaters conclude season of growth

By Jackie Walker
Midway reporter

Debate Team finished its season after the Homewood Flossmoor High School tournament February 21-23, where they competed against schools including Walter Payton and Whitney Young, opponents they often compete against at other tournaments. The team competed in states across the country this season, including California and Minnesota.

“We’re still having practice debates, and our coaches and the varsity members are still teaching us,” freshman Asha Futterman said. “Even though the season is over we can keep learning and keep getting better for next year.”

At the Homewood Flossmoor High School tournament, U-High had both novice and varsity teams compete.

Four varsity teams competed from U-High. Varsity team senior Alice Yu and junior Luke Nuwell placed 16 out of 74 varsity teams. Seniors Sam Kaplan and Lily Zhao placed 45, Sam placing 97 speaker and Lily 106. Senior Sam Leiter and sophomore Alina Cui placed 50, Alina placing 94 speaker and Sam 147. Sophomores Robert Bacon & Reed Rosenbacher placed 60, Reed getting 119 speaker and Robert 125.

Novice team freshmen Jennifer Jiao and Asha Futterman overall placed 13 out of 61 novice teams. Asha placed 24 speaker

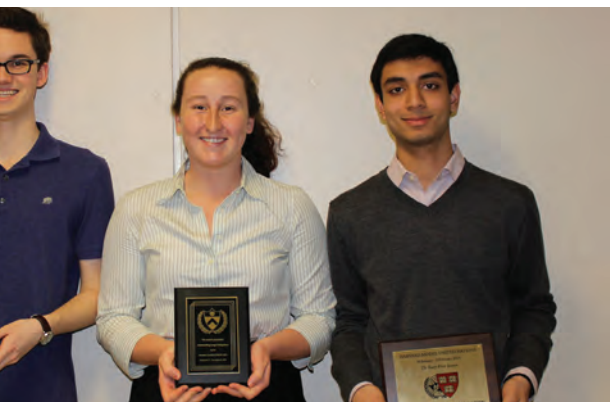


Photo by Monica Valenzuela

Model United Nation Board members Matthew Davis, left, Lillian Eckstein and Rahul Mehta show trophies from the Boston University, Princeton and Harvard conferences.

was chaired by upperclassmen and members of the Model UN board, who served as the directors of the committee and provided crises or events for the committee to discuss and resolve. This mock cabinet, the first since 2012, debated United States national security and the conflict in Syria with delegates representing Syrian and US officials.

“The goal of the practice cabinet was to give our team members experience on a cabinet-style committee, as most freshmen have only been on larger committees,” said Board member Eriko Koide, junior. “At Cornell’s conference, most committees are small so experience is vital.”

“OVERALL, WE noticed delegates didn’t balance leading the committee and cooperating with each other, which made some of them frustrated. However, we had individual debriefs to go over strategies to improve within cabinets as well as being a better delegate on the whole.

“With the cabinet mock we hoped for freshmen to expand their skillset, and though we faced several obstacles, I think we accomplished our goal and prepared ourselves well.”

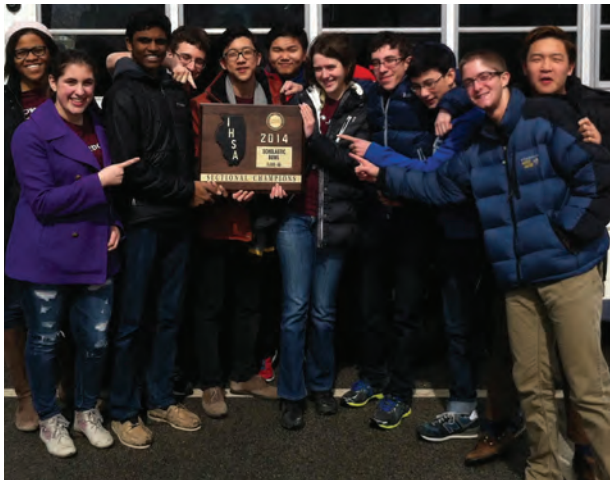


Photo courtesy of Sam Nekrosius

As IHSA Section Champions at a Homewood Flossmoor competition Saturday, March 15, the Scholastic Bowl team proudly displays its plaque.

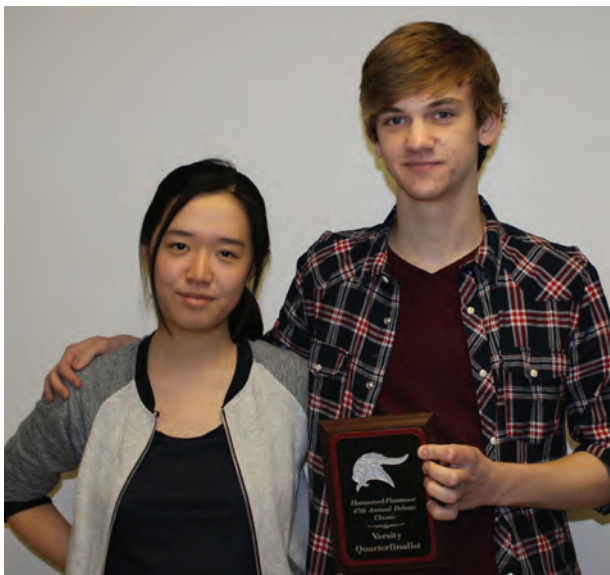


Photo by Monica Valenzuela

After the Homewood-Flossmoor tournament, their last of the season, Alice Yu and Luke Newell show a partnership plaque.

and Jennifer 33 speaker out of 122 novices. U-High’s other novice team, freshmen Pria Parsad and Zora Navarre, placed 34. Zora placed 70 speaker and Pria 76 speaker.

“At Homewood Flossmoor, everyone had strong prelim records,” Alina said. “I think the Lab debate team has had an enormously successful year, not just in the competitive win-loss sense but also as a group of people devoted to an activity.

“It continues to astound me how much the novices on the team have grown. They have clearly fallen in love with debate and I think this year all the varsity members have fallen in love all over again.”

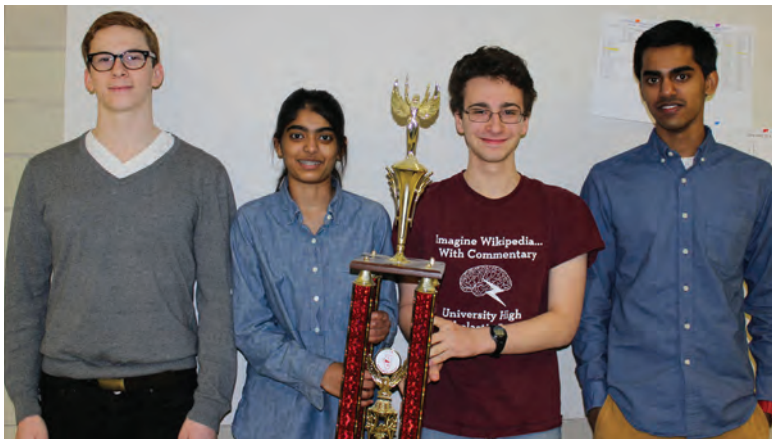


Photo by Monica Valenzuela

Math Team members Eliot Levmore, Hajira Munim, Adam Fine, and Mohammed Munim show U-High’s trophy from Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) Regionals.

Math team victorious at Regionals

By Mia Luo
Associate editor

After placing 1st at the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) math competition regionals Saturday February 22 at North Central College in Naperville, the Math Team hopes to continue U-High’s winning streak at ICTM State, 6:45 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, May 5 at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Scores earned by 26 U-Highers from various competitions in each grade, including calculator, team, and individual events, contributed to U-High’s team score of 894, besting that of Lake Forest High School, second in the state, by a large margin of 112 points, according to senior team member Eliot Levmore.

“We won almost all of the competitions at regionals, so I don’t think we’re too worried about our competition,” Eliot said. “We have arguably the state’s top freshman, Wanqi Zhu, and junior, Adam Fine, so I’m hoping that we can win more individual trophies this year than last year. But otherwise, we’ve won State for several years running, so we’re just hoping to do it again.”

As the Midway sees it

U-High catches Media eyes

These days, the U-High Midway isn't the only newspaper reporting on the Lab Schools community. Several newspapers including the New York Times, Chicago Tribune and Hyde Park Herald have reported on U-High happenings.

In a March 8 article headlined "The Youngest Technorati" in the New York Times, senior Louis Harboe's accomplishments in computer science and design were highlighted along with those of 17-year-old Ryan Orbuch. Louis and his grandfather, Nobel Prize-winning economist Gary Becker, were quoted in the story, which tells of Louis' origins and accomplishments in design since he entered the field at age 12.

Two days later, the CBS Chicago website uploaded a story named "Chicago High Schooler A Finalist In National Science Fair" about senior Rahul Mehta's recognition as a finalist in the Intel Science Talent Search.

Faculty members have also received recognition.

A reporter from the Hyde Park Herald interviewed history teacher Paul Horton for its March 26 issue for a story entitled "U. of C. Lab teachers show support for CPS test opt-outs."

Also making news, "Star Wars" creator George Lucas and his wife, Investment Management Executive Mellody Hobson, contributed 25 million dollar contribution toward the development of the new Arts Wing as recorded in the Chicago Tribune's February 25 article, "George Lucas, Mellody Hobson donate large again."

The Lab Schools have also attracted less positive attention from the media. The Chicago Reader published an article "Are Chicago's elite private schools as diverse as they claim to be?" concerning allegedly insufficient socioeconomic diversity at the Lab Schools, Latin and Parker.

Media aside, with a successful Connections and Artsfest, including the addition of Art in the Dark to the latter, U-High has a lot to celebrate right now.



Editorial cartoon by Lydia Fama

School spirit grows in sports

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Opinion columnist

"Go Maroons" foam fingers and a bus scheduled to shuttle students to a boys' basketball game—something has changed at U-High.

Starting with the boys' sectionals soccer game last fall, I became aware of a rise in sports attendance. The bleachers at several boys' basketball games in the winter were also near-filled, and although the bus scheduled to shuttle students to an away game March 5 got canceled, the gesture itself was a novelty for U-High. Some students did however travel to the away sectionals semifinals game March 11.

SEEING STUDENTS at these games is thrilling to me, and makes me think about the future of U-High spirit. Without a football team, students focused on boys' soccer and basketball as rallying points for the school. In addition to a continued effort to keep sporting spirit high, we can use the energy U-Highers have invested to promote other Maroons teams and clubs.

Promoting some sort of peer performance seems like the best way to get U-Highers to events. Students flocked to Art in the Dark to see their friends perform, just as they come to see their friends compete on the field or in the court.

A relatively simple way to get even more students to games, for instance, could be to have student performers sing the national anthem prior to games rather than playing the recorded versions used this year at basketball games. Boy basketballers already gain added audience members from the halftime Dance Team performance, and by adding a second performance to such games, sporting events can appeal to a wider U-High crowd.

U-HIGHERS, LIKE most teenagers, also don't like having mandatory school events cut into their free time whether it's during or after school. The best way to get us excited about something is to ask us to support our friends, so that the event feels like a privilege and not an obligation. This was made most clear to me at Art in the Dark when so many people chose to attend and enjoy the committee's hard work.

Well-promoted but not mandatory events based on student performances and competitions have the potential to add to the already improved U-High spirit.

From Benjamin Zimmer,
Class of 2003:

Lab School's official diversity statement declares, "in the course of learning, our students will encounter a rich profusion of diversity." Thank god. I was worried the profusion of diversity might be poor.

When it comes to diversity at Lab, it is safest not to ask too many questions. "Diversity is important to everyone at Lab," no exceptions, the school's Facebook page proclaimed in December. How is the school so confident of this? I've heard rumors whispered in the dark of night that the Blaine basement contains secret classrooms where those who question the importance of diversity receive a friendly "reeducation." Galileo once took a class there, at the polite recommendation of the Roman Inquisition.



Mr. Zimmer

Joking aside, anyone familiar with the English language knows that a commitment to diversity, per se, is meaningless. The key question is diversity of what. Hairstyles? Clothing choices? Musical tastes? Political views? The last issue of the Midway quoted many students, teachers, and administrators who felt, rhetoric notwithstanding, Lab's commitment

to diversity and "social justice" did not go far enough. For some reason, I doubt that their concern was the underrepresentation of Republicans at Lab. Yet relative to population of the United States, Republicans are more underrepresented than African-Americans among Lab's student body and faculty.

When it comes to the composition of the Lab community and the ways members of the community treat each other, we would be well served to move beyond empty rhetoric about ill-defined concepts like "diversity" and "social justice." Instead, we should identify concrete problems and craft solutions to those problems.

The Vice President of the Black Students' Association told the Midway that African-Americans at Lab frequently experience racially insensitive jokes. One solution might be a school assembly or other forum discussing race/ethnicity and humor in American society and how to define and navigate the line between humor and intolerance. Bringing in a well-known African-American or Hispanic comedian to help lead the discussion could help draw-in and engage students.

The President of Spectrum told the Midway she felt most students at the school are not open to discussing issues of sexual orientation. An assembly or other forum where students of various sexual orientations discuss their personal experiences and challenges might foster more awareness of and openness to sexual orientation issues on campus.

Other perceived problems may not be as problematic as meets the eye. The Midway's most recent editorial lamented, "U-Highers seldom have experienced everyday life at other high schools." But nearly every high school student in the world has little exposure to everyday life at schools other than his or her own.

The editorial also lamented that Lab School students live "in a different orbit than the rest of Chicago and its suburbs." But the population of any school that charges tuition or has a selective admissions process necessarily will not mirror the population of society as a whole. And it is impossible for even large public high schools to include students who represent the cultures, identities, and experiences of all earth's six billion residents. Some things in life must be learned and experienced other than by attending high school.

It is also worth remembering that Lab has educational objectives beyond exposing students to "diversity" and teaching them about "social justice" – for instance, teaching students to speak and write clearly, perform basic quantitative analysis, and think critically and creatively. That is, until critical thinking involves questioning the importance of diversity at Lab. Such diversity of viewpoints would be a bridge too far.

Compared to most elite private schools, Lab's student population does include individuals from a broad range of racial, ethnic, and socio-economic backgrounds. This is a good thing, and it is something the school should continue to cultivate. Where there remain concrete problems with the way certain sub-communities feel they are treated, the administration should probe those problems and develop thoughtful solutions to address them. But over-the-top rhetoric and meaningless proclamations about "diversity" and "social justice" do nothing to make Lab a more respectful or open-minded place.

If you want to discuss these issues further, I will be "voluntarily" spending some time in the Blaine basement singing happy songs about the virtues of diversity. I will emerge ready to rid Lab School of homogeneity and unjust imperfection.

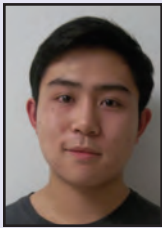
Quick Q

What are you most looking forward to during Spring Quarter and why?



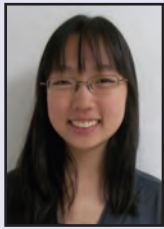
Alex

ALEX COHEN, senior: While snow is beautiful, it generates a lot of negative feelings, and puts people in a slump. Spring tends to have the opposite effect, so I'm looking forward to the end of this eternal winter.



James

JAMES ZHANG, junior: Because I walk to school, I really want the snow to be gone. The ice on my route slows me down a lot.



Kellie

KELLIE LU, sophomore: Since Winter Quarter is so short, teachers were fitting in more tests and homework than usual, so I didn't have any free time. I did theatre for two quarters, but I'm not in the musical this time. I'm glad to have more time to work on things like Science Team.



Nigel

NIGEL TELMAN, freshman: I'm very excited for the Jazz Band trip to New Orleans. We're going to see jazz museums and play at a concert, which should be really fun. I really want to try the food, too.

—Compiled by Marissa Martinez



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U-High’s yearbook designer gets New York Times business profile

By Natalie Holley
Associate editor

Profiled for a story in The New York Times, senior Louis Harboe learned firsthand what it’s like to be studied and observed. For five weeks, journalist Matt Richtel contacted him for interviews.

The story, appearing on the front page of the Times’ Sunday Business section March 8, was headlined “The Youngest Technorati.”

IT TRACED, in Mr. Richtel’s words, “The many entrepreneurially-minded, technologically-skilled teenagers who are striving to do serious business. Their work is enabled by low-cost or free tools to make apps or to design games, and they are encouraged by tech companies and grownups in the field who urge them, sometimes with financial support, to accelerate their transition into the ‘real world.’”

Louis was chosen because he has been doing freelance work since the age of 12, when he designed the interface for an iPhone game. By age 16 he was involved in a summer design internship at an “online and mobile

payment company in San Francisco, earning \$1,000 a week plus a \$1,000 housing stipend” according to the article. Also featured in the story was Ryan Orbach, 17, of Boulder, Colorado, who had built an app with his friend Michael Hansen, 17, and was traveling to market it. They and Louis met online.

LOUIS FOUND the interviewing process for the Times story interesting.

“It was a pretty casual interview process,” he said. “The reporter, Matt, just called me whenever he needed to. At first, he wasn’t quite sure what he was writing about; he just knew that he wanted to focus on working kids and education.

“The story really developed once he got a chance to know me and and the other people in the article. We went through at least three weeks of talking on the phone before he had a solid idea of what he’d be writing.

“The whole process was flexible and went by pretty



Photo by Carl Fohran

Already famed at U-High as the 2013 and 2014 yearbook designer, senior Louis Harboe now finds himself featured in the New York Times. He’s at his desk in the Journalism Department.

quickly. There was a two-week break where his editor looked things over and we weren’t really talking. But in the end they just wanted to confirm everything with me.”

Despite the careful interviewing process, Louis believes the story included an error.

“**THERE WAS** a quote used in the article about Carnegie Mellon University where they switched what me and my Dad said,” he explained.

Professor Gary Becker, a University of Chicago economist and a Nobel laureate, was also interviewed for the story. He is Louis’ grandfather.

As for reactions at school, many people told Louis he was sure to get into the college of his choice with his fame. But he mused “A lot of colleges don’t necessarily value developing an app as much as they value a 36 on the ACT or straight A’s. It’s not like every admissions officer is going to understand what I do.”

Science Search winners have long history here

(continued from front page)
to the behavior of malignant cells.

Louise won \$20,000 for her work, and when she returned to Chicago from D.C., victorious, the school held a ceremony in Kenwood Mall in her honor.

She too was featured across the media and appeared on NBC’s “Today” show, and in the New York Times. After graduating, Ms. Chang also went to Harvard.

THE THIRD U-Higher to represent U-High in four years at the competition, Ben Abella, Class of 1988, was named a finalist. He had devoted 20 months working in a lab at the University of Chicago with Dr. Robert Haselkorn.

MR. ABELLA researched a soil bacterium which acts as a natural fertilizer for certain plants in the context of genetic engineering, discovering and characterizing two genes essential to cell life.

As Dr. Abella, he worked a few years at the University of Chicago Hospitals, and currently is on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania in the Department of Emergency Medicine.

“The experience showed that anyone can make an impact and do something both worthwhile and exciting in the sciences,” Dr. Abella said of the science competition.

“**I WAS** amazingly lucky to get to



Photo by Erica Scavella from the March 29, 1988 Midway

A Science Talent Search 3rd place winner in 1988, Ben Abella was also honored by the Museum of Science and Industry at a rally in Kenwood Mall. Principal Wendell McConnaha praised Ben’s achievements.

submit my project, share and spend time with incredibly smart students from across the country. I was interested in science beforehand, but the Science Search solidified my interest and led me to become an academic physician. It is too bad not more people have the opportunity to participate in programs such as the Science Search because it really turns people on to the sciences at a young age.”

In 1990 Matthew Headrick took 1st place for pioneering research on genes, chosen over 1,450 other entries. He now teaches theoretical physics at Brandeis University. And in 2002 Beckett Sterner placed 6th. He went on to earn a PhD in Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science at the University of Chicago.

Science Adventure

(continued from front page)

In the window-lined main hall of the National Geographic Society Building the 40 finalists presented their research to the judges and members of the public interested in the competition throughout the morning of March 10. The finalists exhibited their work through posters covered with colorful images, graphs and charts.

“**ON MONDAY MORNING** we got to present what we had actually researched to the judges in this enormous main hall at the National Geographic Society,” Rahul explained. “My research is about theoretical computer science and discovering a faster method for solving the max-flow problem using algorithms. I tried to tailor my response to the people I was presenting to. For example, when a computer science professor came up I gave him a very technical explanation, but when a doctor with an ophthalmology background came up, I tried to relate my work to medical imaging.

“After that anyone was allowed in and we presented to them. About 600 people ages 8 to 80 came in and looked at our projects. I was impressed by the amount of people coming and going and the amount of press as well. Some had actually studied computer science in college and a lot of them told me they used linear programming to solve max-flow problems and that wow, this was much faster.”

ALTHOUGH THE COMPETITION proved the main focus of the week, Rahul found new friends.

“I liked that it was a pretty small group. There were only 40 of us, so I really got to know everyone. My roommate was actually from New York and his research was really cool. He focused on using a statistical analysis and mathematical modeling to develop targeted chemotherapy treatment.”

Rahul’s time in DC culminated with a black tie gala in the Grand ballroom at the National Building Museum where the top 10 winners were announced.

Science Team winners

(continued from page 3)

Emily Xiao, 3rd, Designer Genes; **Emily Xiao and Lily Zhao, 2nd**, Disease Detectives; **Carah Alexander and Mbella Beseka, 4th**, Dynamic Planet; **Raghu Somala and Justin Whitehouse, 1st**, Entomology; **Lily Zhao and Jay Dhamoa, 4th**, Forensics; **Mbella Beseka and Nathan Isaacs, 4th**, Geologic Mapping; **Tiffany Suwatthee and Rajan Aggarwal, 6th**, Materials Science; **Rajan Aggarwal and Jay Dhamoa, 6th**, Technical Problem Solving; **Leah Umansky and Jonathan SooHoo, 5th**, Water Quality; **Tiffany Suwatthee and Carah Alexander, 3rd**, Write It Do It; **Jonathan SooHoo and Tiffany Suwatthee, 3rd**, Boomilever; **Angela Zhang and Nathan Isaacs, 2nd**, MagLev (constructed by Jay Dhamoa and Ishaan Dayal), and **Ishaan Dayal and Raghu Somala, 3rd**, Mission Possible. This Thursday, the Environmental team will travel to Wheaton for its competition.

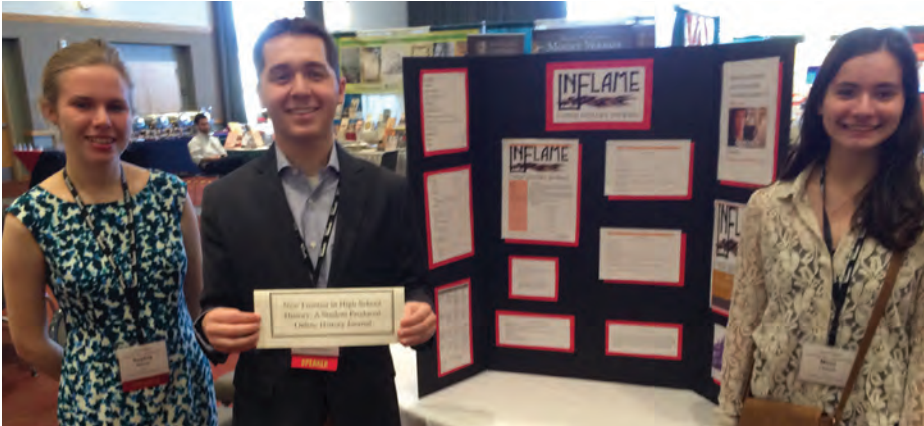


Photo courtesy History Teacher Paul Horton

InFlame in New Mexico

U-High’s student-produced history journal, InFlame, has won nationwide attention since its first issue appeared in the Winter of 2013. At a National Council for History Education conference March 20-22 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, staff members Sophia Weaver, left, Edward Litwin and Mimi Lipman gave a presentation on creating and publishing such an in-house high school history publication. The conference theme was “New Frontiers.” More than 500 teachers, college professors and historians attended.

Sophia, a senior, is coeditor-in-chief with senior Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow. Edwin and Mimi, juniors, are editors along with senior Marissa Page and junior Karen Reppy.

InFlame publishes history and economics papers by U-Highers twice yearly on the Lab Schools website and annually in print. A board of four students and two teachers reviews submissions anonymously and selects which will be published.

“The conference was an amazing experience,” Edwin said. “and we got an overwhelmingly positive response from a lot of the educators we talked to, who were really interested in the journal and what we had to say.”

History teachers Paul Horton and Charles Branham were delegates to the convention.

Freshmen say they rose to challenge

(continued from front page)

Sarah said. “Everyone talks about college and their majors. Parents, teachers and students all add some sort of stress about school, but I understand where it comes from. We are connected to a top university so we get notice from there. This gives me more reason to be organized. In middle school, I would leave my textbooks in my locker or forget a homework assignment at school. Now, I definitely care more.”

Ukrainian adventure

(continued from page 2)

active role government can play in bettering the lives of other people,” he said.

During the summer before freshman year, Mr. Salinger taught theatre in Hungary; after senior year he taught in Italy.

“THEATRE IS GREAT because it allows you experience being multiple people. It tests you to experience human nature and psychology, and it teaches you to develop an understanding of other people.

“I chose Italy because it was a very specific program. It only ran in one country, which is just what I wanted. I chose Hungary because I have family background there. My grandmother on my dad’s side was a Peace Corps volunteer in Hungary and I wanted to see what it was like.”

Completing his four years at American University, Mr. Salinger immediately joined the Peace Corps.

“I WAS ALSO influenced by my family, because my grandparents on both sides were involved in the Peace Corps and volunteering outside of the U.S.

“My grandfather was in charge of math and science teachers in Malaysia when Peace Corps was founded.

“My grandmother on my mom’s side had a PhD in home economics and helped schools in other countries.”

ONCE ASSIGNED to his project, Mr. Salinger flew to Ukraine through Amsterdam in September of 2012.

“I didn’t actually pick Ukraine, I was assigned my location because I have a background in teaching English. The people who assigned volunteers to locations knew that Ukraine, and Novopskov in particular, needed English teachers.

“I had teacher’s training as well as training in Russian, in a small town outside of Kiev called Fastiv until December 12, 2012, when I left to go to my assignment location of Novopskov.”

NOVOPSKOV, UKRAINE is about a 10-hour drive east of Kiev, located between the Kam’yanka and Aidar rivers.

“The residents of Novopskov were incredibly welcoming,” Mr. Salinger said. “As soon as I arrived, I went to meet the mayor. He gave me a book filled with theatre masks as a gift, which made me feel very welcome.

“The school I taught at, called Gas Pipeline School, had about 250 pupils or so. Most of their parents worked for a local gas company, gas being the main industry in eastern Novopskov.

“Besides the students, there were not a lot of young people in Novopskov. Once they went to college, they generally stayed put, however, there were a few young police officers present.

“THE SCHOOL is not very pretty. There is an old playground with a field outside, and there is also a large auditorium where the school would meet for concerts and performances.

“There is also a large pink room with a lot of open space that was used for performances. There is a small teachers’ lounge with a small area where the kids are able to put their coats.”

DESCRIBING A typical week, Mr. Salinger said, “School would start off on Monday with a school-wide meeting with the Director.

“I would have three to five, maybe even six classes a day. Kids would bring their belongings with them in the classroom; there were no cubbies or lockers.

“Once I was done teaching, I would talk with the other two English teachers, both of whom were from Ukraine, about the next day’s lesson.

“ON MONDAYS, I would host an English club for first, second, and third graders. Friday English club would be open to anyone who wished to attend.

On Saturdays I had an English club in the central library.

“On other days, I would give private tutoring. I couldn’t be paid for my work, so many of the locals decided to pay me with free food. I got lots of rabbit, homemade milk, fresh vegetables and other things as well, especially from the local grandmothers.”

Mr. Salinger described his students fondly.

“THEY WERE of mixed levels of ability, but most were very enthusiastic, and extremely committed to getting their work done. A lot of them wanted to be doctors, English teachers, firemen, and all wanted higher education.

“The best way to describe them would be to say they were all very active. Even the little ones. The thing I’ll miss most about Novopskov is playing Pictionary with the five year olds. It was so much easier to have them get involved in the classroom, despite their limited vocabulary.”

The town of Novopskov, according to Mr. Salinger, is much like the American midwest, with cookie-cutter houses, but of concrete. The town has mom and pop stores, markets and a chicken vendor.

BECAUSE OF the continuing political unrest and potential for violence in Ukraine, Mr. Salinger, along with all Peace Corps volunteers in Ukraine, was evacuated. He left Novopskov February 21, eventually arriving back home in Washington, D.C.

“It was very disappointing to leave. I couldn’t say goodbye to anyone besides the other English teachers and the director of the school. On the morning I left, the teachers I worked with came and hung out with me at home before I left. In Ukrainian tradition, you sort of sit around for a while and wait until the person you are waiting for departs on their trip.

“I’m still a Peace Corps volunteer so I can’t comment that much on the political issues, because Peace Corps is a nonpolitical organization,” he added. “I can say that opposition to the Ukrainian government is very nuanced. There are many different interests and many different parties.”

HE LAMENTS his early departure.

“I had to leave nine months early because of the evacuation. Although it’s hard to measure my impact in 18 months of service, I can say that I have learned a lot.

“Optimism is not common when your country has had its fate determined by other powers, whether European or Soviet. In the end I found that Ukrainians believed that things should and can get better.

“However, when I told the two other English teachers ‘tomorrow, I am leaving,’ one of them came to me and she said that I taught her that if you learn to stop and think about things, you know they will be okay.

“SHE WAS very optimistic. If I had any impact in my service, having her say she was optimistic during a time as volatile as now was something.

“Part of our job is to exchange culture and ideas, but to teach Ukrainians to love their country as much as we love ours is important as well.”

On his arrival in Washington DC, Mr. Salinger met with the security head of the Peace Corps for three days.

HE IS HOME for up to 60 days, when he finds out if he can return to Ukraine, or otherwise apply for another assignment elsewhere.

The political future for Ukraine remains unclear. So, consequently, does the future for Graham Salinger.

Editor’s note: Mr. Salinger was interviewed using Skype, email and telephone.



Photo by Francine Almeda

How education can change a life

The value of girls’ education is leveraging change around the world, Jo Budzilowicz, Class of 2001, explained at an all-school assembly March 13 in Max Palevsky Auditorium as she showed part of the acclaimed documentary film, “Girl Rising” in celebration of the International Year of the Girl. The excerpt told the story of a Nepalese girl, Suma, leased out by her parents from a young age to work as a domestic, suffering abuse from numerous masters. The story changes when Suma goes to night school, where women’s rights activists take an interest in her plight and break her obligation to work for her master. Girl Rising is an international initiative to get girls everywhere quality education.

Ms. Budzilowicz is content development head at the Documentary Group in New York City . She has produced numerous films and documentaries.

“The organization ‘Girl Rising’ worked with non-governmental organizations in the countries where we wanted to film, and paired them with a native author to record their story and tell it with an authentic voice,” she explained. “For this chapter we hired some actors to help reconstruct scenes from her childhood, but her story is true, she plays herself, and there are thousands like Suma.”

Brief-ly

\$25 millon gift becomes largest donation in Lab Schools history

■ DONATION–Winning the top spot on the Chicago Tribune’s front page, the biggest gift in Lab Schools history, \$25 million, was announced February 25. The gift came from famed filmmaker George Lucas and Chicago investment executive Mellody Hobson, who were married last year.

The building will be named after the late Gordon Parks and reportedly be the first University of Chicago building named in honor of an African-American.

The couple have also pledged \$25 million to the education charity After School Matters. Ms. Hobson graduated from St. Ignatius College Prep, going on to graduate from the Princeton University Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

As president of Ariel Investments she has numerous ties to Lab Schools graduates. She also serves as chairman of DreamWorks Animation, appears on “Good Morning America” and hosted the ABC-TV program “Unbroke: What You Need to Know About Money.”

■ SILVER HONORS–Three U-High seniors have won National Silver Medals in the 2014 National Scholastic Art and Writing competition. They are Maddi Anderson for her poetry portfolio; Emily Xiao for her short story portfolio, and Emily Hsee for both her poetry collection and a drawing.

■ POETS REIGN– Extending a winning streak, U-High’s InVerse team took 1st place in its second preliminary competition Friday February 28 at Columbia College. Next up came the Sweet 16 teams’ competition in the semifinals of the “Louder Than A Bomb” competition Saturday, March 8 at Metro Chicago, 3730 North Clark Street. There the U-Highers did not advance further.

U-Highers had won their first round Friday, February 22 at Columbia College.

“Louder Than A Bomb” is a Chicago youth poetry festival; this year’s programs took place February 15-March 15. The sponsoring organization, Young Chicago Authors, was founded in 1991 as a Saturday program for students excelling in creative writing. U-High’s competitors include seniors Leah Barber, Emily Hsee and Maddie Anderson; juniors Jax Ingrssis, Julia Mearsheimer and Leah Rosensweig; and freshman Liza Edwards Levin. The coaches are Nina Coomes and Natalie Richardson.

In the Illinois Poetry Out Loud competition sponsored by the Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, sophomore Grace Anderson competed at State March 14 at the Hoogland Art Center in Springfield. She finished in the top five. Grace had placed 1st in a U-High competition and then won the Regional competition February 20 at the Poetry Foundation at 61 West Superior Street downtown. The competition consists of memorizing and reciting poems.

U-High’s festive celebration of all things written and read, LabBeat, begins 5:30 p.m., this Thursday, April 10, in Rowley Library. Everyone is invited.

■ MUSICIANS HIT RIGHT NOTE–At the District Music Festival March 8 at Reavis High School in south suburban Burbank, U-Highers received Superior and Excellent ratings as follows:

VOCAL SEXTET–Sarah Markovitz, Asha Futterman, Coleen Bauman, Averie Miller, Daniela Garcia, Zoe Rebollo Baum; **VOCAL QUARTET**–Lydia Fama, Pascale Boonstra, Will Kent, James Sinclair; **CLARINET TRIO**–Janine Liu, Alex Gajewski, Will Curry; **SAXOPHONE TRIO**–Elsa Erling, Chavon Hussey, Alex Lundsgarde; **SAXOPHONE DUET**–Tiboo Mehta, Nick Woodruff; **SOLOISTS**–James Sinclair, Will Kent, Allie Kreitman, Danny Kim, Janine Liu, Katherine Zhang, Ben Grobman, Brian Brady, Danny Rubin, Tiboo Mehta, Christos Nikas.

■ MORE WINNERS–At the South Midwest Chinese Speech Contest March 21 U-High and Middle School students won honors as follows:

CHINESE 3A: Gold, Zoe Baum, Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson; silver, Julien Bendelac; **CHINESE 5:** Bronze, Isabella Pon.

■ CORRECTION–The Midway’s editors are continuing to experience errors in the paper on pages which they had approved. In the February 26 issue, the “Connections” preview had several lines of type mixed or omitted; the correct information appears this issue in the caption with the photo at the bottom of the front page. The DICE meeting photo on page 3 of the February 26 Midway was taken by Stacy Stern but credited to another photographer. The correct information did appear in the online version of the issue.



Photo by Della Brown

Guarded closely by a Chicago Vocational defender, Jordan Moran fights to maintain possession of the ball in the Maroons' narrow 55-53 win over the Cavaliers in the Regional Championship March 7.

Broken records, Regional crown cap stellar year for winter teams

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor and columnist

Spearheaded by a combination of upperclassmen leadership and an influx of transcendent young talent, winter teams did not skip a beat despite having underclassmen-laden rosters.

With a strong core of freshmen and sophomores, boy swimmers triumphantly shattered 12 school records on their way to a 3rd place finish at Sectionals. Confident that their success this year will carry over to the



Luke

next two seasons, senior Eliot Levmore says the team has enough young talent to send swimmers to State.

"We have incredible potential as a team with great underclassmen," Eliot said. "Given that they have two more years together I think it is conceivable that we could send a relay to State."

"ONE OF MY favorite things about the team is that it never felt like one person was outshining everybody else. Everybody had his role on the team that he worked hard to fulfill."

"Sectionals actually provided some frustration for the underclassmen who were frustrated with their individual times, but I have full confidence that they will rebound in the Sectional meets in years to come."

Faced with the daunting task of replacing five seniors who graduated



Photo by Jarrett Lampley

As she settles into her pace for the race, Lucy Kenig-Ziesler extends her lead over the other competitors in a Midway Miles meet at Henry Crown Field House.

last year, girl basketballers exceeded expectations on their way to a 14-7 record. Led by seniors Lillian Eckstein and Maud Jansen and junior Kendall Rallins, U-High flew through its regular season before faltering in the playoffs.

"IN HINDSIGHT, I would consider it a very successful season, considering how young the team was," Lillian said. "We had a lot of big contributions from freshmen and sophomores and bounced back nicely from a season in which we lost five seniors to graduation. Next season we will be faced with similar challenges but if everyone attacks their offseason with a lot of hard work and intensity the team should be good again."

In his first year as the boys' varsity basketball coach, Marlo Finner helped the team to a perfect ISL record and a 3A Regional title. The Maroons ultimately fell 72-63 to Bogan and the hot hand of Luwane Pipikins in the Sectional Semifinal.

"My main takeaway from the season is that despite coming in with some doubters and low expectations, we were able to achieve a lot, which will help carry motivation into the next year," junior Jordan Moran said. "I'll be focusing on my conditioning a lot this offseason so that I can play more minutes. Current juniors Ben Rhind and Mikal Muhammad will also have to be big contributors next year for us to be successful."

FOR SENIOR Frank Waggoner and the track team, indoor track provided a springboard for the outdoor season. The Maroons also traveled to Florida for a week of spring training.

"Our training has been much harder throughout the season," Frank said. "We view the indoor season as preparation for the outdoor season. Although the results have not always been what we hoped for in the indoor meets, we are confident that the work we have put in will pay off."

Fencers' hard work spanning the last several years showed mightily this year, with the women's foil team capturing 1st place in women's foil at the Great Lakes Fencing Championships. Although U-High will lose star senior Elle Hill, it will return ample talent next year.

"There were a lot of devoted, quality fencers this year, such as senior Charles Chamberlain," sophomore Julian Lark said. "The seniors were incredibly solid, and it will be interesting to see some of the sophomores, such as Max Kramer and Nora Lin, lead the team more as they develop."

Spring teams' returning stars meshing well with new faces

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and columnist

With boy basketballers winning the Independent School League and their Regional and boy swimmers shattering 12 school records, spring teams sport the key players to add to that success.

For the past three years, U-High girl soccer players have watched senior Lizzie Garrett-Currie achieve incredible success—on her club team. Lizzie opted to play with her club soccer team, Eclipse Select Soccer Club, rather than U-High for her freshman, sophomore and junior seasons. But this year she will bring her abilities to Jackman Field before taking them to Emory University. Along with Lizzie, a core of upperclassmen has U-High thinking ISL title this season.

"WE HAVE a lot of returning players; a lot of seniors and upperclassmen," senior Eleanor Schuttenberg said. "The team has a lot of potential, and I think almost everyone has made big strides this year. We are excited to have Lizzie on the team because we think she will really help us in the midfield. We have a strong defense, and I think she will really help us get into the final third of the field and finish our chances."

The boys' tennis team will also benefit from a new presence: junior George Hamilton, who came to U-High this year. Although Chicago's snowy winter prevented the team from getting an early look at his abilities, his experience on the United States Tennis Association (USTA) circuit should complement the talents of the returning players.

Despite losing its top two players from last year—Conrad Harron, who now plays at Williams College, and Lucas Buchheim-Juriss— the team will have a deep squad this season, led by likely singles players James Duran, senior, and Jeese Kim, junior. James believes this year's team has a good chance to finish atop the ISL, given its depth and the dynamic of the current ISL teams.

"THIS YEAR is our best chance to win the ISL," James said. "In years past we have lost to Latin and Francis W. Parker, but Latin especially has lost a lot of its top players to graduation, so we have a good shot. Certainly, losing Conrad and Lucas is tough, but I expect us to be more well-rounded. There are a lot of good underclassmen, and I think we'll

have a good core with Jeese, George and myself. We're very excited about George."

"The way it's looking right now, although we haven't seen much of George, it looks like Jeese and I will be playing singles. There will be a combination of players playing doubles, and it will be a huge competition for doubles spots."

JUST AS the tennis team lost star players to graduation, so too did the baseball team. Matt and Sam Lawrence, who now play at Rensselaer Polytechnic, Steven Glick, who plays at Pomona College, and Dan Klonowski, who plays at Macalester College, all played key roles on last year's Regional championship team.



Mike

Without them, a young but skilled team will look to repeat last year's success and to capture a second ISL crown in three years. The Maroons only sport one senior—outfielder Logan Crowl—but an experienced junior class, including three-year varsity players Benny Friedman and Luke Murphy, should supplement that sufficiently.

"Last year we really had to rely on the seniors, but this year we will have to lean on a lot of juniors and a couple sophomores, Joe Curci and Brad Koontz," Luke, who struck out 19 batters in the Maroons' opening day win over St. Francis De Sales, said. "Our new coach, Dave Reid, suggested that we work out on our own, which definitely helped us come together as a group. We can't take anyone lightly, but the ISL is ours to lose."

COMING OFF ISL championships for both the boys and girls, the track team got off to an early start to the season with its first-ever trip to Florida. At indoor meets throughout the winter, runners improved in preparation for this spring.

"In terms of boys, senior Max Volchenboum is a key runner for us, and so is sophomore Jacob Meyer," senior sprinter Bolu Johnson said. "The harder the competition, the better those guys do. They always have their biggest races in the big meets. Also, our girls' sprint team is really incredible this year. Junior Alex Thompson is already eclipsing her times from last year's season, which is quite impressive."

Care for your hair and spare some fare!

Looking to sport a new haircut or style for the spring season but tight on cash? No problem! Hair Design International has you covered. We have great prices and give great cuts, so stop in today to get a trim.



Photo by Matt Garvey

As he discusses Hair Design International's array of hair products with a stylist, Harry Ni expresses his desire to find a new gel to spice up his style.

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Artsfest, Student Experimental Theatre create exciting splash



Photo by Della Brown
Leaping and twirling to the tune of Flume’s remix of “You & Me” by Disclosure, Dance Team starred at the closing ceremony of Artsfest, Thursday, February 27, wearing tank tops that read “#werk,” bejeweled by their coach, Erin Barnett.



Photo by Della Brown
Surrounded by cheering fellow U-Highers, Jarrett Lampley dances to the beat of Kaotic Drumline at the end of the opening ceremony.



Photo by Della Brown
Artsfest Chairs Katie Harris, Liv Rhodes and Lindsey Aronson raised spirit with the crowd at the lively opening ceremony of Artsfest.



Photo by Della Brown
Kaotic Drumline from Englewood immediately won over the crowd at the Opening Ceremony. Swirling around Kovler Gym as the rhythm of their drums bounced off the walls, the band also selected student volunteers to play their drums. A day of art and music workshops led by students, teachers and guests offered a myriad of choices. Smoothies from Jamba Juice were offered in the cafeteria throughout the day.



Photo by Stacy Stern
Barefoot in the cafeteria, Fen Truitt paints a mural she designed of a girl sitting on a large stool painting for her workshop. The design was placed in the second floor hallway.



Photo by Della Brown
Adding final touches, Zoe Rebollo-Baum, Eliana Whitehouse and Katherine Zhang complete a cake for their workshop.



Photo by Della Brown
Slicing apples, Alice Yu and Emily Xiao prepare to make apple pie for their workshop.



Photo by Daisee Toledo
While waiting for the henna on her left hand to dry, Alexis Acosta watches intently as Maryam Alausa applies the henna to her other hand in MSA’s “Hands With Swag” workshop.



Photo by Stacy Stern
In their “Lost In Songlation” workshop, Will Kent, Tatum McCormick and Asha Futterman compose music with Tatum’s guitar.



Photo by Stacy Stern
Matzah, Nutella, marshmallow fluff and pretzel sticks are the ingredients for houses in Zach Volchenbaum, Lilia Wilson and Reese McCormick’s “Matazah Architecture” workshop.

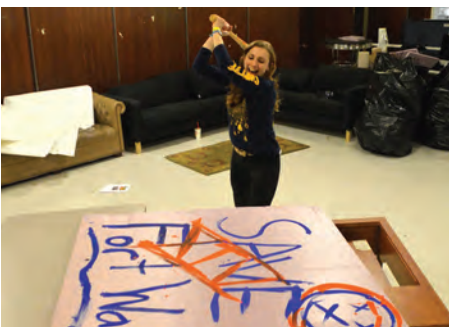


Photo by Della Brown
Minutes after a “Save Fort Wars” painting was created, senior Katie Harris smashed it in her workshop, “Creative Destruction.”



Photo by Daisee Toledo
Phil Healy, Kahan Modi, Bolu Johnson, Julian Ehsan and Aurielle Akerele gather around a laptop at the DJ station during “Art in the Dark,” the night before Artsfest. It also included performances and finger painting.



Photo by Daisee Toledo
Taking a break from mural painting at Art in the Dark, Isaiah Bradley picks up a Coke from Glenn Decety at the concession stand.



Photo by Daisee Toledo
As Maya Ben-Shahar crouches, Lukas Mireles, her lover, screams wildly at her through the fence during the Student Experimental Theater play “Polaroid Stories,” directed by Zoe Briskey.



Photo by Daisee Toledo
Charlotte Elfenbaum interrupts Carly Plys-Garzotto’s monologue in their SET play “English Made Simple”