



Shakespeare play turns into U-High musical

By Jackie Walker
Midway reporter

Interspersed with musical numbers composed and choreographed by students and teachers, U-High's Spring Production of "Twelfth Night," or "What You Will," by William Shakespeare is a comedy about several love triangles. It will be presented 8 p.m., tonight through Saturday. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in the High School lobby.

When her ship wrecks, Viola, a cunning woman, pretends to be a man named "Cesario" to survive in 17th century Illyria, on the coast of the Western Balkans.

SHE ENTERS the service of Duke Orsino, who uses "Cesario" in an attempt to court the illusive maiden, Olivia. Viola's masquerade becomes complicated, however, as unexpected feelings develop.

The play was first performed in 1602, less than a year after it was written. U-High's production is led by Director Liucija Ambrosini and Technical Director Allen Ambrosini.

"The last time we did 'Twelfth Night' was over 10 years ago," Mrs. Ambrosini said. "It's a Shakespeare classic, it's fun, and it has a great plot and very interesting characters. The situations are fun; there are several complicated love interests. It really gets students to appreciate classic literature; they get to sink their teeth into something substantial."

SONGWRITER FOR the production Zoe Briskey, senior, said she tailored her music to fit the characters.

"When writing the music for a character, you get to approach them unbiased," Zoe said. "It's like acting, you have to go into the character's mindset and write from their point of view."

Trying to match the dancing style to



Photo by Jarrett Lampley

With original music and dance composed and choreographed by U-Highers and teachers, this year's Spring Production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" follows a complex love triangle amongst the main characters. Alex Soto (left), Emma Gossett and Autumn Espinosa rehearse in Upper Kovler Gym, where the musical will be performed.

the music was a challenge according to choreographer Mutiat Alagbala, senior.

"THE MUSIC is from another time period," Mutiat said. "It doesn't have the modern beat and energy, which makes it more difficult to choreograph. Also, different people have different experience, which is both helpful and harmful. For example, we have more types of dances that we can use but it takes time to teach others the steps."

For actors' safety, among other reasons, costumes were altered slightly from the clothing of the period according to Costumes Manager Loren Sosnick.

"For costumes, we're trying go for period pieces, but we also took some liberties in slimming them down so that they're more movable and less likely to cause the actors to fall," Loren said. "They're also going to be much more colorful."

ALTHOUGH THE COSTUMES are

colorful, makeup will be more subdued according to Makeup Mistress Zoe.

"Makeup for this play is super simple. It's more toned down than it has been in recent years," Zoe said. "It's more focused on the costumes and acting."

Because of construction around the school following the demolition of Belfield Hall, rehearsals and set construction took place in Judd 126 and in Kovler Gym.

"EVERYDAY IS like a scavenger hunt," Shop Mistress Sarah Hecht, senior, said. "We don't know where things are because we had to move. After every performance we'll have to take down the stage so classes can take place. We'll go home late and tired but it comes with the job."

The smaller spaces affect actors' exits on stage according to sophomore Marissa Martinez, who plays Maria.

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Music, speaker will distinguish 2014 graduation

By Marissa Page
Editor-in-Chief

After gathering in Lower Kovler Gym at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 12, the Class of 2014, clad in maroon caps and gowns, will parade down 59th Street to Rockefeller Chapel for their Graduation at 2:30.

As in previous years, Graduation will be preceded by a Senior Luncheon, compliments of the Parents' Association, at noon Wednesday, June 11 in the Ida Noyes Cloister Club, followed by Graduation rehearsal.

THE LUNCHEON will feature musical performances by Marissa Page and Louis Harboe, Kassim Husain and Zoe Briskey, with Tabitha Oh, Aurielle Akerele and Note to Self, a band comprised of Sonia Bourdaghs, Max Archer, Carah Alexander and Charles Chamberlain, performing at the Graduation ceremony.

The musical acts, commencement



Graham Moore
Commencement speaker

speaker Graham Moore (Class of 1999), student speaker Bolu Johnson and nine honorary diploma presenters and recipients were selected by the Graduation Committee, comprised of Akilah Harris, Sonia, Louis and senior Student Council and Cultural Union members Lillian Eckstein, Bolu, Natalie Kampf and Kahan Modi. Dean of Students Ana Campos supervised the committee's decision-making process.

"WE BEGAN having weekly meetings in January to discuss logistical stuff, first and foremost having the committee select the commencement speaker," Ms. Campos said. "The rest was having to

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Star filled evening awaits Promgoers

By Alex Harron
Midway reporter

In a window-lined ballroom displaying panoramic views of Lake Michigan and Chicago's skyline, U-High Promgoers will dine and dance beneath the star-filled sky at The Adler Planetarium, 1300 South Lake Shore Drive, 6:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, June 7.

Light from the stars will illuminate the dance floor for U-High seniors and their guests along with music by DJ Chicago. Members from Stuart-Rodgers Photography will be capturing both candid and posed pictures throughout the night.

AFTER PREVIEWING several spaces, Prom Committee, with elected heads Lily Zhao and Ellen Audrain, began planning the dance last spring.

"Many people on the committee and in the senior class wanted Prom to be at the Planetarium," Lily said. "We visited other venues including the Cultural Center and Art Institute but the planetarium

seemed like the best space because of the views and access to one exhibit near the dining hall."

With a menu yet to be decided, Ellen said the dinner will be served by a prestigious caterer.

"Food For Thought is a highly regarded service that works specifically with Adler, After the three-course dinner, the rest of the night will include dancing, a photo booth, the announcement of Prom Queen and King and fireworks."

CLIMAXING THE PROM, fireworks will explode over Lake Michigan 15 minutes before the dance concludes.

Also new this year, seniors on Prom Committee are considering adding a picture signing to kick off the night's events.

"Our plan is to have each senior submit a picture to be blown up on nice paper and provide sharpies for students to sign each other's photos in the entrance," Ellen said. "This will give seniors the opportunity to write a goodbye note and have their friend's signatures because U-High



Photo by Della Brown

With dinner catered by Food for Thought and music by DJ Chicago, Prom will take place June 7 at the Adler Planetarium. Prom Committee Cohead Lily Zhao (above) with Ellen Audrain raised funds to help finance the evening in part by selling and serving specialty lunches in the cafeteria.

does not have a yearbook signing."

Ellen noted that ticket prices rose from \$95 to \$115 this year.

"The ticket price was just announced, but for the most part people have not

been opposed to the \$20 increase," Ellen said. "Our ticket price is cheaper than other schools and

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Labstock to kick off year-end festivities

With U-High bands and singers performing atop the steps outside the lobby facing Kenwood Mall, and the savory scent of hamburgers and hot dogs being



Benny Friedman

barbecued, Labstock again will kickoff the final week of school, 4-6 p.m., Friday, June 6. With the school's Alumni Weekend also getting underway (see story on page 3), alumni from across the country will join in the festivities, as they have every year.

Dean of Students Ana Campos, new this year, is looking forward to the afternoon. "As far as I understand, Labstock is a way to relax after everything leading up to those last few days," she said. "I am very excited; it should be fun."

Student musicians who perform choose their own music.

In previous years, a student coordinator has pulled the event together but this year students are working together on it with help from faculty members.

Among the performers familiar to U-Highers will be junior Benny Friedman, guitarist and vocalist, who performed last year and this year played at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly and Art in the Dark, the evening program which preceded Artsfest.

"Labstock is a pretty nice venue, and very enjoyable," Benny said. "I will probably play with my band with some guys from Notre Dame and possibly with John Turner Williams, Ben Rhind and some other juniors."

Following Labstock, the Senior Prom will take place Saturday evening at the Adler Planetarium (see story on front page).

The annual Awards Assembly will take place 8:20-10:40 a.m., Monday, June 9, at International House, followed by a reception for award winners 10:40-11:10 a.m. Assembly attendance is required.

Final exams follow 9-11 a.m., with science on Tuesday, June 10 and math on Wednesday, June 11.

A graduation luncheon for seniors at noon at Ida Noyes Hall will be followed by rehearsal 1:30-3 p.m.

Teachers meet for the last time noon Tuesday with a luncheon for the entire Lab Schools faculty and staff 11:45 a.m., Friday in the cafeteria.

Midway editor, adviser both receive State Journalism Association honors

A Midway editor-in-chief and the paper's faculty adviser are both being honored by the Illinois Journalism Education Association as the school year comes to a close.

Junior Mike Glick, one of the Midway's four editors-in-chief this year, is being inducted into the All-State Journalism team. He is among 10 high school journalists selected for the honor this year. Winners will be inducted at a luncheon Saturday, June 7, at the Governor's Mansion in the state capital, Springfield.

ADVISER WAYNE BRASLER similarly was inducted in the education association's Hall of Fame at a luncheon Saturday, May 3, at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. He was honored for 50 years of advising student publications and teaching and a long history of leadership in the field and defending student press rights.

Also honored were Linda Kane, former adviser to the Central Times at Naperville Central High School, and Cathy Wall, adviser at Harrisburg high school.

"The three of us know each other," Mr. Brasler quipped in accepting his award, "except I think of those two as having gone through the war for student press freedom while I was just on the sidelines."

Mr. Brasler was National Journalism Teacher of the Year in 1981, has received the Pioneer Award from the National Scholastic Press Association, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association and the Gold Medal award from the University of Missouri School of Journalism as an educator and defender of student press rights.

MIKE WAS honored for his leadership as a Midway editor and his outstanding sports reporting and writing.

He is the latest of a long line of Midway editors named to the All-State Team, with several going on the next year to become Illinois High School Journalist of the Year, including Tareta Lewis, Class of 1993, now a Lab Schools parent; Tom Stanley Becker, Class of 2009; and Sydney Scarlata, Class of 2012.

"I'm truly honored and humbled to have been nominated to the All-State Journalism Team," Mike said. "There are so many journalists in Illinois who play key roles on their newspapers, and you could make a case for each one to make the team."



Mr. Brasler accepting his award at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

State woman's press association presents 14 awards to journalists here

Fourteen awards have been won by U-High journalists in the Illinois Woman's Press Association's annual high school communications contest.

U-High journalists won almost a fourth of the 62 winning entries in the contest.

THE WINNERS will be honored this Saturday at a luncheon at the Union League Club in the Loop.

First-place honors went to Lydia Fama, junior, for cartooning; Marissa Page, senior, for reviews; Nathaniel Green for yearbook photo; and Meryl Charleston for yearbook copywriting.

Nathaniel and Meryl graduated last year. Meryl was a U-Highlights editor-in-chief and Nathaniel was the yearbook's photo editor.

LYDIA ALSO won first place last year and went on to take first place in the National Federation of Press Women's contest. Her brother, Gene Cochrane, Class of 2012, also was a State winner, in both cartooning and graphics, and her brother Eric Cochrane, Class of 2009, also won.

Other winners this year are as follows:

SECOND PLACE-Feature story, Clay Surmeier; **photofeature page,** Monica Valenzuela; **column,** Sonia Bourdaghs; **review,** Christine Obert-Hong.

THIRD PLACE-News story, Marissa Page; **sports story,** Mike Glick; **page design,** Sonia Bourdaghs; **yearbook design,** Stephanie Luo.

HONORABLE MENTION-Feature story, Elizabeth Chon; **editorial,** Natalie Holley.

2012 yearbook gets top national rating

Talk about a surprise!

When the scorebook arrived recently with the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's critique of the 2013 U-Highlights, this year's editors quickly recognized that the judge was not happy with the book.

AMONG THE CRITICISMS: A yearbook should be primarily a photo book, this book has stories far too long; the design needs to be updated, it is too formal; the theme did not apply to the school year; and the quotes from U-Highers don't read like high school students really talk.

The judge did like the photography. After reading the critique, the editors didn't even think of looking at the awards certificate accompanying it. When they did they got a shock. The book had received Columbia's top rating, the Gold Medalist award.

SENIOR SABRINA HOLLAND, who served as editor-in-chief of last year's yearbook with Maya Hansen, Meryl Charleston and Jordan Einhorn, seniors last year, said the annual evaluations pose a perennial problem.

"Our yearbook doesn't look like other high school yearbooks, because we take an in-depth approach in both photography and reporting and writing; we prefer simple, clean design over complicated display and heavy graphics; and U-High isn't like other high schools and I guess someone might think the quotes in the book are strange because I guess either U-Highers don't talk like other high

schoolers or the interviewing we do goes much more in depth than in most yearbooks.

"Our yearbooks stray from the guidelines because those guidelines do not represent the life or spirit of our school and the choice is to follow the national trend or strive to design a yearbook that represents this school, which could be described as eccentric."

AS FOR THE 2013 U-Highlights' design, "It wasn't behind the times," Sabrina said. "It is actually ahead of the times. The designer, Louis Harboe, developed a magazine-inspired layout reflecting what trendsetting publications internationally are doing."

Journalism teacher Wayne Brasler, who advises the yearbook with Photojournalism teacher Liese Ricketts said, "The critiques we get each year from various sources are worth their high price, whatever the rating. The judges obviously devote enormous time to give a detailed and expert critique which we find educational and useful."

"THE PROBLEM is they know the rules but seem lost when confronted with a yearbook that is coloring outside the lines. They often just conclude we don't know what we are doing. It wasn't that way at one time, when the most individual yearbooks often won the top awards, but it is that way today.

"For me, that does not detract from the credibility of the judges or the value of the critiques. But the Gold Medalist certain proved a big surprise!"

(Also see story on page 5.)

One more Midway to go, out final week

Be sure to pick up the final issue of the Midway, coming out the last week of school before Graduation Day. It will include our annual story on where seniors are headed for college, a feature on

beloved teachers who are leaving U-High, a full page of Senior Prom photos, another surprise photo essay page, and news you won't want to miss and will find only in the Midway.

Here to enjoy all summer long



Photo by Liv Rhodes

THE MEDICI ON 57TH is the perfect place for good friends to gather all summer for great eats and beverage treats. Just ask Mike Glick, Marissa Page and Hebah Masood.

TAKE IT FROM these hungry U-Highers, you'll want to drop by the Medici often this summer to meet friends, enjoy lunch in our cool dining room or have dinner on our roof patio with our extensive menu giving you terrific dining choices. Or just come for a sandwich, snack or cool beverage (our lemonade is justly famous). The Medici is a Hyde Park and University High tradition every season of the year but in the summertime it's especially nice. See you soon!



1327 East
57th Street
(773) 667-7394

Monday-Thursday 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday 7 a.m.-11 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

Brief-ly: *Learning trip to Rome planned next year*

■ **ROAMIN' TO ROME**—A trip to Rome, Italy, the school's first in recent memory, is being offered March 16-24, 2015, led by Latin teacher Frances Spaltro. All U-Highers are eligible to go, but Latin students will get priority.

Focusing on the ancient Roman world, the trip will also include the cities of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and Ostia Antica. It is being conducted in partnership with ACIS, a well-known educational travel expert. In Ovid's "Metamorphoses" Acis was the spirit of the Acis River in Sicily.

A meeting for interested U-Highers and parents will take place 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 28 in U-High 103-104. Ms. Spaltro can be contacted at f-spaltro@uchicago.edu.

■ **AWARD CANDIDATES**—Ten juniors April 29 wrote timed essays as part of the selection process for the annual Eunice McGuire Award. Honoring the late longtime English Department chairman and teacher, the \$1,000 scholarship for their senior year goes to two juniors.

This year's finalists are Rajan Agarwal, Maya Ben-Shahar, Lucas Fagen, Jax Ingrassia, Julia Martinez, Jane Maunsell, Julia Mearsheimer, Maddi Ross, Madeline Sachs, Kennedy Thomas, Henry Utset and David Yunis.

■ **NEW HONOREES**—Two security guards, a teacher, an athletic trainer, an admissions director, a learning coordinator, a cashier and two custodians received Unsung Heroes awards at U-High's 18th annual Community Learning Brunch on Thursday May 8. Around 185 students, advisors, peer leaders and administrators gathered in the Ida Noyes Cloister Club during open time last week. A brunch of breakfast burritos, eggs, potatoes,

pastries, juice and hot chocolate was served.

Honored were the following:

Cynthia Boykin and Michael Cephus, security officers; **Wayne Brasler**, journalism teacher and student publications adviser; **Anthony Hunter and Roberto Luna**, custodians; **Yessenia Mendoza**, cafeteria cashier and staff member; **Mallory Milalov**, athletic trainer; **Derick Thomas**, assistant admissions director; and Kevin Van Eron, learning director.

■ **NEW SERVICE PROJECT**—Students of Spanish teachers Laura Damer, Suzanne Baum and Diana D'Antoni visited a senior center in Humboldt Park, "Casa Central," where most of the people served are Spanish speakers April 22 and May 13, as part of exploring a possible new Community Service project.

"I think Community Learning is a natural fit for Spanish because there are so many Spanish speakers in Chicago," said coordinator Hannah Evans. "It just makes sense to practice your Spanish skills outside the classroom as well because there are people out in the community you can really help, communicate with, and learn from."

■ **CONCERT OPPORTUNITY**—The Jewish Students' Association is planning a concert 3 p.m., Sunday, June 1 at Earl Shapiro Hall to benefit a charity to be selected.

U-Highers who want to audition for the event can contact any JSA Board member or email lumanskiy22@gmail.com.

The Board members are sophomores Julia Hedges, Reed Rosenbacher and Leah Umanskiy and freshmen Isabel Levin and Emma Rafkin.

■ **HONORED**—Nineteen U-High German student received honors April 27 at the annual awards ceremony of the National German Contest sponsored

by the American Association of Teachers of German.

Placing in the 90th percentile of winners nationally, the students receive certificates and prizes. With the most winners invited to the ceremony, the school received a special certificate accepted by German teacher Marianne Zemil.

Recipients were as follows:

GERMAN 4—Anna Bokwin, Julian Lark, Maya Dieter, Luke Herrigel, William Leiter, Daphne Schneewind, Stefan Rhekemper.

GERMAN 5—David Yunis, Luke Newell, Sophie Rosenzweig, Edward Litwin, Natalie Kampf.

AP GERMAN—Isabelle Berten, Matthew Davis, Thomas Brown, Leah Barber, Eleanor Schuttenberg, Tabitha Oh, Niko Friehs.

■ **DANCE IN THE SPOTLIGHT**—"Moving Portraits," a dance program choreographed by juniors Catherine Eng and Karen Reppy will be presented 2 p.m., Sunday, May 25 at the Logan Center, 915 East 60th Street. The event will benefit the Hyde Park School of Dance Outreach Program.

Tickets, \$12 (\$8 for students) are available at <http://ticketsweb.uchicago.edu>.

Dancers will include senior Katherine Harris and junior Eriko Koide and Middle Schoolers Julia Rademacher-Wedd and Olivia Issa.

"I came up with the idea of doing the show over the summer when I was in New York at the Deeply Rooted Dance program," Catherine said. "I gained new perspective in dance there, and began to think about choreographing. When I got back to Chicago I went to Karen's house with New York Bagels, her favorite, and we talked about the show."

"The pieces are explorations into human nature and internal conflicts of people struggling in life. Many of the pieces are inspired by events we have witnessed in life."

For example, 'Silent Walking' was inspired by a disabled woman I saw on the street.

"She was struggling to get up to walk because she has only one leg when two of her friends supported her acting like crutches. That moment really touched me."

At the Harris Theater Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18, freshman Lucy Ordman and Middle Schooler Megan Behnke, will perform in Ballet Chicago's "On Pointe," a program showing the wide range ballet can take as an art form.

■ **ALUMNI WEEKEND**—U-High alumni will be flocking back to a campus with a lot of surprises in store for Alumni Weekend, Friday, June 6 through Sunday, June 8. Graduating classes with years ended in 4 or 9, beginning 1954, will be holding reunions and there will be 1940s reunion.

Lunches, dinners, panel discussions about the evolving Lab Schools and its diversity; a reception honoring longtime faculty and staff members; a kickoff party Friday and alumni

■ **DAY WITH THE DEANS**—Wellesley, Princeton, Duke and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign took the spotlight today at the second annual Day With the Deans program for juniors and their parents. Woodlawn Charter School juniors and parents joined in.

The visiting deans joined in a panel discussion on the process of college admissions and how they really work.

■ **NEW ORLEANS NOTES**—Arriving in the middle of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, 15 Jazz Band members visited the legendary jazz mecca May 1-4 in a trip organized by their director, music teacher Francisco Dean.

The U-Highers experienced a clinic with John Mahoney, director of jazz studies at Loyola University in New Orleans, gave a concert at the Hard Rock Cafe on Bourbon Street and, in the words of sophomore Ryan Zimmerman, guitarist, "ate a lot of spicy Southern food and explored the French Quarter."

Back in Chicago, on Tuesday, the U-Highers gave their Spring Concert at the Checkerboard Lounge on 52nd and Harper.

Putting a punctuation mark on the end of this year's concert programs, High School and 7th- and 8th-grade band concert, "Bandapalooza," will be presented 7:30 -9 p.m., Thursday, May 29 in Mandel Hall, 1131 East 57th Street.

■ **PAY UP!**—How much does it cost to go to U-High? is a question U-Highers are familiar with.

The answer next year is \$29,424.

And if anyone asks, that compares with \$29,985 at Latin and \$31,830 at Parker.

The most expensive private high school in the United States, according to Business Insider, is the Lawrenceville School in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, where tuition and fees total \$44,885. About 800 students attend.



Photo by Della Brown

Rather than becoming caught up emotionally in the challenges and difficulties all teenagers face, they need to embrace them as opportunities to learn from experience. The was one message Dr. Lynn Ponton, who practices psychiatry and psychological analysis at the University of California and is the author of acclaimed books on risk and sexual experiences among adolescents offered in a panel discussion May 1 at an assembly at Ida Noyes Hall. A highly-sought speaker, Dr. Ponton had the evening before presented a program sponsored by the Parents' Association.

At the student assembly she got applause when she said nearly everyone at some point experiments with addictive substances.

The student panelists who posed questions, from left, are Max Volchenbaum, Katie Harris, Julian Ehsan, Katie Adlaka and Sabrina Holland.

New Council president wants strong student voice in school decisions

By Elizabeth Chon
Midway reporter

Ensuring a strong student voice in school decision-making heads is a part of newly-elected Student Council



John Williams
Student Council president

cil president John Williams' plans. He also hopes to refocus the Council as an elected leadership group.

"Cultural Union is an event-planning organization, while Student

one large Cultural Union, we need to make our political goals heard. If we are planning events, there is no reason to call ourselves Student Council."

He also wants to strengthen Council communication with the faculty "to ensure that Student Council is aware and involved in important decisions such as imposing new rules, especially since Student Council has become less active in school politics during recent years."

"Also, I will ask that all executive officers come prepared with an agenda based on what their grade has told them. With the coming expansion of U-High, it is important that we set a standard for what

Student Council can be, so we can keep our values intact in the future even with a larger student body."

Elected Cultural Union president, junior Maryam Alausa said,



Maryam Alausa
Cultural Union president

"I hope to increase student involvement and spirit with more events distributed throughout the year. My plan is to increase coordination with clubs in order to avoid having multiple

events on the same days."

Both new presidents bring to their jobs extensive experience in stu-

dent government. Other winners were as follows:

STUDENT COUNCIL—President: Vice president: Katie Adlaka, secretary: Kennedy Thomas, treasurer: Lily Olson,

CULTURAL UNION—Vice president: Apoorva Gundeti

NEXT YEAR'S SENIOR CLASS—President: Whitney Beach; vice president: Karla Douglas, Cultural Union representatives: Charlotte Elfenbaum and Jarrett Lampley

NEXT YEAR'S JUNIOR CLASS—President: Fabrice Guyot-Sionnest; vice president: Fikayo Walter-Johnson, Cultural Union representatives: Max Rochester and Daniel Zhu

NEXT YEAR'S SOPHOMORE CLASS—President: Mathew Ferraro, vice president: Alex Azar; Cultural Union representatives: Jonathan Lipman and Katherine Zhang.



No, Principal Scott Fech was not training a replacement last week. Sophomore Arun Sharma was serving as Principal for a Day. He got the job as a prize from the Parents' Association "Connections" benefit.

Seniors stay near, go far for May Project

By John Williams
Midway reporter

Exploring Turkey and Greece for two weeks, senior Sabrina Holland will interview locals about national monuments and learn about different cultures for her May Project.

May Project was created by the Class of 1969 to provide seniors an opportunity to pursue career possibilities, community service projects, and independent study in place of a final month of classes and, with them, the proverbial Senior Slump.

THIS YEAR, 119 seniors are participating in the program, coordinated by World Language teacher Frances Spaltro. Projects will be exhibited Thursday, June 5 in Lower Kovler Gym 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. with an evening reception.

Sabrina said she wanted to travel to reflect on her life and to learn about other societies.

“Traveling is honestly my passion,” she says. “It allows me to put things into perspective and evaluate my values and the person I’ve become. I really wanted to combine my past and my future which is why I decided to go to Greece and Turkey. Greece is one place I never connected with, so I wanted to give it a second chance.

“TURKEY REPRESENTS my future because I want to become fluent in Arabic and although Turkey is not completely a Middle Eastern country, it will give me some exposure to parts of the Middle Eastern culture.

“I never had any exposure to the language or Arabian culture, but I think that’s why I want to become fluent in Arabic. I don’t know much about their beliefs and traditions, but some of their beliefs are super radical, and I think people, in general, need to learn how to find some beauty or appreciation for radical beliefs and customs.

“I’ll be doing video interviews asking locals what their favorite part is, what each monument means to them, what they think is the most misunderstood concept about their culture, what they love about the Western world and what they hate about it. People value monuments so much more in different countries. I want to see if they appreciate them and if the monuments mean something to them.”

SENIOR MATTHEW DAVIS is completing an internship at Yes for Independent Maps, a local political organization.

“Yes for Independent Maps is an organization seeking to pass an amendment to the Illinois Constitution to create a bi-partisan district drawing commission to alleviate gerrymandering in the state legislature,” Mathew explained. “

“A group my dad works with was approached by them for an endorsement. The wife of the man in charge of the program went to Lab, so he was open to me doing my May Project there when I emailed him about it. I knew I wanted to do something involving politics for my May Project, and found this organization one that I could work with easily, and one that represented a cause that I believe in.

“I’VE BEEN THINKING about majoring in political science, so I hope to get experience that could lead to more internships in that field during college. Additionally, this measure is something that I think can really help Illinois, so I hope to play a role in its eventual success.”

A dedicated vegan, senior Alexis Acosta is creating vegan cookbook.

“I really love food and it’s a huge part of my family’s culture,” Alexis said. “I wanted to make a cookbook, though, because I want to sustain this lifestyle in college and want to show it people so that they can see how easy and inexpensive it really is. I also enjoy coming up with recipes and seeing what works best. I hope to gain a lot more knowledge about which flavors and tastes go well together as well as becoming better at making easy and quick meals.

“I want to show people how easy it is to switch to vegan meals as well as broaden my own knowledge of vegan cooking. I also want to make something tangible. A cookbook is something that I’ll have forever and I can always turn to it if I want to make something quick.”

OTHER MAY PROJECTS are as follows:

Animation and voice acting project for a short animated film: Miranda Garfinkle; **assistant to Chicago Tribune book columnist:** Leah Barber; **baking blog:** Avery Broome; **ballot initiative for independent district mapping in IL:**Matthew Davis; **bass guitar:** Sonia Bourdaghs; **BBQ:** Iscaiah Bradley, Kahan Modi.

Beginning level cooking and baking classes: Delana Penn; **Chicago fashion by neighborhood: photography & interviews:** Hebah Masood, Monica Valenzuela; **Chicago photography:** Lindsey Aronson; **Chicago through time lapse photography:** Jeffrey Li; **children’s art and psychol-**

Scholarship Winners

Five U-High National Merit Scholarship Finalists so far have been notified they have won \$2,500 grants.

They are Carah Alexander, Eliot Levmore, Emily Xiao and Alice Yu.



Photo by Alexandra Thompson

“Right now I can only look at maps on the internet and at travel brochures; soon I will be there for real” Sabrina Holland said enthusiastically before embarking on her trip to Turkey and Greece for her May Project.

ogy: Eleanor Schuttenberg.

Choreographing and organizing flash mob: Sophia Weaver; **computing:** Jack Davis; **consult with Remi Canarie designers on own design project:** Maria Gilfoyle; **cooking and Web Design:** Charles Chamberlain; **cooking family recipes, photography & design:** Liv Rhodes; **cooking with Dad and making YouTube videos** - Lillian Eckstein.

Create a computer program to keep track of Pokemon statistics: Jack Reece; **creating a time capsule book for seven adoptive Chicago families:** Jiji Plecha; **curriculum writing & teaching:** Frank Waggoner; **designing and building a doll house based on Hyde Park homes:** Sheridan Small.

Documenting competitive cooking with videos: Danielle Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Mia Luo; **early childhood education:** Madeline Rafkin; **electronic beats:** Caleb Dowdy, Jaquell Hamelin, Phillip Healy; **electronic music:** Rahul Mehta, Kelsey Stevens; **exploration in watercolors** :Sarah Hecht.

Exploring different ethnic cuisines: Christian Morris, Luis Ortega; **exploring French cuisine with Julia Child:** Rosalind Ellis; **exploring why people give:** Sam Adams; **family history, photos, interviews** : Carah Alexander; **focusing on Syria and the foundation’s work there:** Kaleb Mazurek; **fully experiencing travels in China to share via photography:** Alice Yu

Great outdoors and mixed media: Tiffany Davis and Natalie Kampf; **guitar:** Mutiat Alagbala, Noah Braendel; **humans of Chicago Blog: photography, blogging:** Daisee Toledo; **intense fencing training:** Elle Hill; **intern at private equity firm to learn about private ownership of companies:** Max Rothschild.

Intern at StreetWise: Marissa Page; **interning with a physical therapist:** Stacy Stern; **interning with Bruce Rauner’s campaign:** James Duran; **internship with Prof. Cathy Cohen:** Davis Cummings; **investment internship:**

Renaissance will showcase wide variety of art, literature, poetry, photos, sculpture

By Grace Anderson
Midway reporter

Colorful geometric patterns inspired by the work of celebrated graphic designer Peter Saville will cover U-High’s art and literary magazine this year. The staff hopes to distribute the issue, which will include poetry, short stories, photography, sculpture and art created and submitted by U-Highers, before the year ends.

Poetry, short stories, photography, sculpture and art will be included, some contributed by individuals and some selected from the work students have done in art, photography and writing classes.

FACULTY ADVISERS are drama teacher Allen Ambrosini and English teacher Mark Krewatch.

Renaissance’s Literary Board has chosen 15 submissions for publication and its Art Board has selected around 40 pieces, with an issue just short of 80 pages anticipated.

Editors-in-Chiefs are sophomore Luke Herrigel, art, and senior Isabelle Berten, literature. Sophomore Julia Hedges is Art Board editor-in-chief.

“Peter Saville is a graphic designer whose done album covers for bands like Joy Division, was the main inspiration for this year’s art design,” Luke said. “He does a lot of art that mixes images and boxes or shapes.

“We tried to channel that by going for a minimalist theme and using geometric blocks, the backgrounds are black and white and then the colorful shapes form patterns on each of the pages. By using these shapes throughout the magazine we are trying to make the magazine cohesive.”

JULIA SAID about 100 art submissions were received.

“After receiving art we review it as a board,” she explained. “We keep the piece for the layout and board members are able to choose the art they want to format when they are doing their page layouts on In-Design. On the pages, the literature goes next to a piece of artwork, but sometimes two art pieces are paired together since we’re including more art than literature. When pairing the pieces we usually focus

Kassim Husain, Harrison MacRae; **learning flamenco:** Ruby Koontz; **learning to jump horses:** Cameron Harter.

Learning to play accordion: Domogoj Jureta; **literature and photography:** Akilah Harris; **living the life of a professional dancer:** Katherine Harris; **machine design:** Rex Hughes, Chris Lawson, Cole Zimmerman; **nanny for a 10-month old:** Benjamin Marks; **marketing projects for digital media company:** Mira Philipson.

Martial arts: Lukas Mireles; **mathematics & education:** Eliot Levmore; **mindfulness and yoga practice, well-being & fitness:** Sam Curry; **national Park Roadtrip and Nature Photography:** Gabrielle Rosenbacher; **obtain first responder’s certification:** Eliza Mittelstead; **pastries and wedding cakes:** Elyse Hain and Lucy Huang.

Personal fitness program: Bolu Johnson, Max Volchenbaum; **poetry anthology, literature:** Madeline Anderson, Emily Hsee; **preparing for the exam to become eligible for internships in finance:** Elizabeth

Garrett-Currie; **produce a musical workshop in NYC/musical theatre:** Zoe Briskey; **producing a daily strip online:** Emily Xiao.

Programming and web design: Samuel Leiter; **record an album of acoustic cello and guitar covers:** Matthew Garvey, Louis Harboe; **recording and producing a solo album** :Nikolas Friehs; **researching companies with a view to acquisition:** Gregory Kerr; **return to playing piano:** Alex Luna, McKenzie Zimmerman.

Sampling music genres to produce hip-hop beats: Julian Ehsan; **screenplay writing: literature on film:** Vivek Sarma; **shadowing a physical (GP):** Stephanie Luo; **shadowing Chicago attorney Tom Durkin:** Maud Jansen; **shadowing sports medicine doc Holly Benjamin:** Tommi Tsao.

Shakespeare and Disney literature an film music: Alex Cohen; **short film project:** Sam Kaplan; **short stories and Chicago photography:** Magdalena Glotzer; **single player computer game:** Max Archer, Rush Brown, Blake Hensel; **study hip-hop, jazz, ballet, modern and tap:** Alexandra Radway.

Teaching cooking at Lab and with GOTYA Food/Service/Education: Eleanor Kallio; **travel blog Hawaii:** Ellen Audrain, Rachel Conley, Grace Fioramonti-Gorchow, Lily Zhao; **travel, culture and photography:** Alix Har; **trick shot documentary** : Logan Crawl, Jonathan King.

Urban Farming: Isabelle Berten, Jen Xue; **urban Gardening, Service, Writing:** Julia Utset; **vegan cooking/cookbook:** Alexis Acosta; **video editing, painting & poetry:** Angela Zhang.

Violin recital: Tabitah Oh; **volunteer at U. of C. Sleep Lab:** Portia Williams; **volunteering with children** :Fiona Potter; **work in Chef Richie Farina’s kitchen to learn more about cooking** :Sam Reynolds; **working in a restaurant:** Leah Helpingstine; **write, direct, and produce an LGBTQ themed film:** Isabel Mitchell; **writing and recording hardcore music** : Eric Giger.

on its tone, so a sad piece would go next to a more serious painting, but when we match art we focus mostly on color.”

The Literary Board selected four poems, two flash fiction pieces and nine short stories

“I think we received about 55 submissions this year and it was especially difficult to decide because we limited ourselves to 15 pieces,” Isabelle said.

“The editors decided to reduce the size of the magazine compared to last year’s so that it can be distributed to students before the school year ends. Hopefully, making the magazine smaller will make it feel more put together to readers.

“In order to discuss pieces, we meet as board on Thursdays during lunch in one of the English rooms,” Isabelle said.

“The contributors go unnamed while we examine the pieces and then we rate each piece on a scale of one to four, the pieces with the highest ratings end up in the magazine.

“I think we really look for something special that stands out such as a strong or unique writing style or interesting choices.”

Staff members not previously identified are as follows:

LITERARY BOARD–Seniors: Leah Barber, Rosie Ellis, Mathew Garvey, Eleanor Shuttenberg and Emily Xiao; **juniors:** Francine Almeda, Liza Libes and Julia Martinez; **sophomores:** Grace Anderson, Grace Cain, Julia Hedges, Nathan Isaacs, Arun Sharma and Jonathan Soo-Hoo; **freshman:** Liza Edwards-Levin

ART BOARD–Juniors: Maya Ben-Shahar and Valentina Gardner; **sophomores:** Sam Aronson, Ariel Gans, Genevieve Nemeth, Ciara O’Muircheartaigh and Lizzie Sullivan.



Luke Herrigel
Editor-in-Chief



Isabelle Berten
Editor-in-Chief

Academic teams turn toward building strength for next year

By Willis Weinstein
Midway reporter

Emphasizing their younger members, academic teams are changing preparation approaches and creating teams in the Middle School to acquire more members.

Math Team member Eliot Levmore, senior, hopes that a more rigorous practice regimen coupled with incoming talent could improve their performance next year.

ELIOT SAID the team won first place in its division, scoring 877 points at the ICTM State Competition on



Eliot Levmore
Senior Math Team member

Saturday, May 3, in Champaign-Urbana, and fourth place overall at the North Suburban Math League meet March 6 in Evanston, due the team's freshmen.

"At the NSML competition our freshman team was first in our division," Eliot said. "We don't have daily practice and we don't exclude math team students from participating in sports teams. The team could theoretically improve by switching to a more intense model, though I expect us to have success in the future because U-High's Math Team attracts competitive students. Elbert Du, for example, is an 8th grader who is nationally competitive. I don't think any upper-classman this year thinks they were that good in 8th grade, so we won't have any trouble replacing graduating seniors."



Rahul Mehta
Model UN President

Scholastic Bowl president Carah Alexander, senior, believes the team's success next year lies in reducing the number of penalties drawn in competition, despite its success at the April Tournament Run On Pennies, Halfpence, and Yen (ATROPHY), Saturday, April 26 at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb.

"At ATROPHY, we made it to the Championship bracket, which includes the top six teams, which

of the quality of the questions helped with," Carah said. "Though we did well at ATROPHY, one thing we need to focus on is how to 'neg' more. A 'neg' is a penalty for answering a question incorrectly before the question is done being read.

"ALTHOUGH NATURALLY people don't want to be penalized, usually negs are the result of going with your gut and being wrong. Because we are experienced players, our guts are correct more often than not, but many of us wait for certainty which may not come before the other team responds. It is difficult to establish a balance between overly impulsive and reasonable estimation, but that is what we need to work towards."

Science Team is looking at new strategies to attract Middle Schoolers and encourage more studying by having students in different events collaborate, according to team member Charles Chamberlain, senior.

"To be honest, last year people were studying far less than usual," Charles said. "At the JETS and Envirothon competitions this year our JV team did as good as or better than our varsity team, because students in different events studied in groups and motivated each other to study, which they didn't do last year.

"I think the most important lesson we need to take from this year is that we need to have as many members as possible, and that waiting for new members has been fruitless. We've faced a strong opposition in New Trier High School and the Illinois Math and Science Academy, who have an advantage over us due to their school size. In order to get more members, we're creating a Middle School science team so we can practice for competition before high school and earn prospective members for the team."

MODEL UN is expanding LabMUNC, its own conference, hosted at U-High, and attend more competitive conferences, under the leadership of its newly elected Board. Members include presidents Alijah Futterman and Eriko Koide, both juniors; junior Karen Reppy; and sophomores Andrew Chizewer, Ilana Dutton, Julian Lark and Willis Weinstein, sophomores.

"LabMUNC, which was the first time we hosted a conference at our school, served as the first opportunity for novices to have a committee experience with other schools," said Model UN Board President, Rahul Mehta, senior. "However, the conference was small, and we only had three committees.

"The Board should focus on increasing the size of LabMUNC next year so we are able to increase the number of offerings and deepen the realism of the committee experience. I also think it's important that the Board trains our delegates to continue to work to on informal interaction and interpersonal skills with other delegates, which is something we can improve on from this year. and how best to leverage that to their advantage."

Serving beyond requirement, volunteers find rich rewards

By Marissa Martinez
Midway reporter

Ever since sophomore year, junior Carly Plys-Garzotto has entertained kids at La Rabida Children's Hospital on Promontory Drive near Hyde Park. She cheers up patients with chronic illnesses and developmental disabilities, or have suffered abuse.

In 1986, U-Highers began to volunteer in the new Community Learning Program as tutors in local elementary schools. The program became a requirement in 1990, expanding its choice of service.

U-Highers worked at soup kitchens, crisis hotlines and hospitals. Now, the Service Learning Program includes more than 30 organizations and inspires U-Highers such as Carly to go beyond their requirement.

"I STARTED at La Rabida during my sophomore year for the service program," Carly said. "I had a friend who



Photo courtesy of Tony Wilson

Gardening for an elderly couple on one of the REACT Club volunteer trips, juniors Carly Plys-Garzotto and Miranda Scarlata enjoy some time in the sun while helping their community.

suffered from a lifelong illness, so I was already interested in helping people like her. It's really inspiring to work there because La Rabida provides care to the children and their family regardless of their ability to pay.

"Meeting the kids is the best part. They're all amazing and adorable. We do lots of activities together, like play board games or soccer matches. I also take the kids down to the playroom, which has a really positive effect on them because they can get out of the room for a couple hours. If they're unable to go there, then I'll stay at their bedside for the day."

Peer Leader Julian Ehsan, senior, volunteers for Apex Academy, a program that offers academic tutoring and basketball training to Chicago-area players ages 8-13. Chris Harper, Assessment Specialist for U-High, founded the group this school year, and Julian has been with it since the start, tutoring the basketball students in the classroom in Sunny Gym after school on Mondays and Wednesdays.

"MR. HARPER came in during one of our Tuesday Peer Leader meetings to talk to us about his then-new program," Julian said. "I got involved because I believe it is important to underscore the importance of academics in young kids, especially in serious athletes. The kids we tutor are some of the best basketball players in the Chicagoland area, and for top athletes in very competitive sports, academics are sometimes pushed down to a lower priority by coaches or parents in favor of practicing more. Many of these kids won't go on to a career in basketball, so education is important to ensure a strong safety net for their future."

To help U-High students, especially those not already involved in service, to get out into the community, juniors Lily Olson and Francine Almeda started the volunteering club REACT at the beginning of this school year. The club's approximately nine members meet Mondays at lunch in U-High 105.

On April 26, REACT members organized a trip in

accordance with National Rebuilding Day, which, according to its website, is a day to rehabilitate homes for low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and those with disabilities. The club worked on a house in Englewood belonging to an elderly, African-American couple from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"THE CLUB met and looked at pictures of the house beforehand," said Carly, who is also a REACT member. "We could tell that the house was in disrepair and needed work. Personally, I built shelves, painted, and did some gardening work. It was a really unique experience because we got to meet the couple, and they were so cute and very thankful. It was really cool to be able to have that personal connection to what you're doing."

Lily reflected, "I've been into volunteering outside of school for a while, and I wanted to bring that experience to others. We try to give the people in our group the opportunity to volunteer at different kinds of sites so that they can find what interests them most and focus on that in the future.

"It has been very rewarding to get other students involved in service projects around Chicago, like packing lunches for the Living Room Café here in Hyde Park or refurbishing houses on National Rebuilding Day.

Hannah Evans, new this year as Service Learning Coordinating job, said she found as the year proceeded that some students think they don't want to volunteer at first.

"They think that it's just another thing to do," she explained. "However, many people grow to like it, and want to do more after their requirements are up. When I got here, I was surprised at how many people came up to me to ask about future service opportunities that they can work on. What energizes me the most about my job are the students who have motivation to make changes in their community. I had a good high school and college experience while volunteering, and I want others to feel the same way."

2014 yearbook to incorporate social media photos

Probably it was inevitable.

Social media has come to U-High's yearbook. The 2014 edition will include photos taken by U-Highers and then posted on Instagram, an internet sharing site.

The photos will appear periodically through the book on spreads designed especially for them.

"We thought about Instagram when we were discussing how to involve the student body more in the production of the book," said Sabrina Holland, editor-in-chief with Maddie Anderson and Tiffany Davis. All are seniors; Sabrina also was an editor-in-chief of last year's award-winning book. "We have a ton of student-contributed photos presented on special spreads."

Following last year's design plan devised by Louis Harboe, then a junior, presenting in-depth reporting and writing paired with the best photography presented large, this year's book carries the idea further, as readers will see.

"Louis, Tiffany, Maddie and I brainstormed ideas and looked through hundreds of magazines for inspiration," Sabrina said. "Last year's book was so new and fresh that we knew we needed to make this year's book new and fresh again."

As for the theme, as usual it is a secret, but Tiffany would say, "It is logical and real and direct and true, which we always like our themes to be."

Working through the summer the editors expect the yearbook will arrive early in October. Seniors



Looking over one of the spreads in the 2014 devoted to photos taken on their own by U-Highers, editors-in-chiefs Sabrina Holland, left, Maddie Anderson and Tiffany Davis are happy with what they see.

will receive letters at home detailing how they can get their book.

Other editors of the 2014 U-Highlights are as follows: MANAGING EDITORS—Julian Ehsan, Emily Hsee, Kassim Husain, Kaleb Mazurek.

ADVERTISING MANAGERS—Business, Julian Ehsan; personl, Emily Hsee.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS—Student Life, Sabrina Holland; Organizations, Maddie Ross; Learning, Ross Tizes; Sports, Kassim Husain and Kaleb Mazurek; People, Tommi Tsao, Stephanie Luo, Justine Silverstein.

The photography editor is Matthew Garvey and the sports photo editor is Fiona Potter.

"I'm looking to working hermetically sealed in the Journalism Office all summer," said Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler, who advises the yearbook with Photojournalism Teacher Liese Ricketts.

A deliciously revived community

West Loop, good food

Story by Clay Surmeier,
City Life editor

Smells of sizzling eggs, crispy chicken and fluffy pancakes waft down Randolph Street past a line of well-dressed yuppies waiting for a table at Little Goat, 820 West Randolph Street, on a brisk, recent Sunday morning.

Given away by the droopy-eyed cartoon white goat on the roof, the Little Goat diner's comfy leather booths and long oak community tables burst with conversation and laughter.

CREATED BY TOP CHEF winner Stephanie Izard, Little Goat has served as a main attraction of the rapidly budding West Loop since the restaurant's inception in 2012.

Although previously a neighborhood of meat packers and butchers, West Loop can now be recognized by its award-winning restaurants sprinkled around Randolph Street, flourishing art gallery district and residential loft-style living. In the 1980's, companies with long-term vision for the area began this conversion from industrial buildings into loft apartments.

In 1995, Mayor Richard Daley hosted the Democratic Convention at the United Center, which brought national attention to the area and more importantly, many much-needed infrastructure improvements. Also, an influx in residential income continued to raise rent prices and make the area safer.

HOWEVER, CLOSED STORES and vacant lots littered around West Loop hint at the area's past. A quick trip on the Green Line train to Morgan-Lake or by car, a drive Kennedy Expressway just past the 290 Expressway, will land you right in the middle of West loop.

Seated behind the store counter, twiddling a ring between her fingers, cashier Amy thinks this change is not all for the best. Adoring a worn, tie-dyed green and blue shirt, she brushes back her weary blonde hair and says she has worked at Mox, 738 West Randolph Street, a repurposed slaughter house turned colorful bike



Just north of Randolph street, Glazed and Infused, 813 West Fulton Market, Benny Friedman, left, and Clay Surmeier eagerly dig into their coffee glazed buttermilk and Old Fashioned donuts. Now one of five stores in the Chicagoland area, Glazed and Infused sold out almost all their donuts before Benny and Clay got there on a recent Sunday Morning.

store with everything from cycling gloves to spare parts, for 15 years.

"This used to be a bad area filled with crime and drugs," Amy said. "Now, a lot of yuppies are coming in with new money and changing the place up. I used to live around here, that's part of why I started working at this store."

"I mean it's good and all I guess to get rid of the bad things but it takes away from the essence of the neighborhood, the heart of it. All this money is hiking up rent prices and pushing the little people out."

FURTHER WEST down the street, La Colombe, 955 West Randolph Street offers an array of unique coffee blends from a smoky Louisiane to a spicy Afrique. Pouring a latte, brewer Penelope thinks West Loop has become much more residentially friendly in the

last few years.

"I was reading somewhere online that the income within West Loop has doubled or tripled in the last three years. That's a huge change."

"I lived in the area about three years ago and have seen the area change a lot. I moved into a loft space here from Kansas City and didn't know the city at all. So when I went out looking for a grocery store or a laundry mat and couldn't find one within a mile of my house, I wondered if it was just the city life at first."

"TURNS OUT, the neighborhood was really just a sort of shady, reasonably priced place with some really good restaurants. I moved out because I was living with seven other people my age and that was no long-term plan."

"Since then, it has become a lot more family friendly. Some grocery stores showed up like Jewel and Mariano's opened up recently too. I hear it's more expensive to live here now but it's a lot nicer. It still has that industrial feel but now has a variety of restaurants rather than just a few really expensive ones."

Just finished styling yet another Macklemore haircut at Floyd's barbershop, 935 West Randolph Street,

hairstylist Jordan says the restaurants make West Loop the neighborhood it is.

"I LOVE the restaurants in the area. Little Goat is obviously one of my favorites. It's just a short walk down the street for some great meals like bull's eye French toast or fish tostadas. I also like Black Bird. Paul Kahan, the head chef there, is a genius. The steamed halibut is amazing."

"There's also always a great night scene in the neighborhood. When we're done with work, couple of friends and I will go hang out at the Mid, a night club, or a restaurant down the street for drinks."

But, Junior Benny Friedman cautions to be prepared before you visit.

"IF YOU END UP trying to get into Little Goat, which you should, be prepared to wait. It can be pretty tricky getting a table sometimes if you don't reserve a table. I once waited almost an hour for a table, but it was well worth it."

"The atmosphere is lively and the food is fantastic, I would go more often if I lived closer. For all of you Hyde Parkers, it's definitely worth a visit!"

All photos by Fiona Potter



Trying out both Monaco and Savoia blends of coffee, Benny Friedman, left, and Clay Surmeier visit La Colombe, 955 West Randolph Street. The coffee shop has stores both in New York and Seoul and offers unique blends from around the world, such as a Mare Blanche from Haiti.



Every riday, Threadless, 1260 West Madison Street, showcases limited addition tees. Accepting online t-shirt design submissions from thousands of artists, the Threadless website also hosts various contests, most recently best parody tee.



Finishing their coffee outside Little Goat, 820 West Randolph Street, Clay Surmeier, left, and Benny Friedman discuss menu options while waiting for a table. Wanting to revisit his personal favorite, Clay to order the Bull's Eye French Toast, while he suggests the Parathas Burrito, an indian flatbread burrito with sunny side up eggs, and a avacado-bean salad on the side.

'Twelfth Night'

(continued from front page)

"In Judd, it's smaller, so moves to offstage don't have to take a lot of thought," Marissa explained. "When you're in Upper Kovler you have to make your walks to backstage a lot more interesting and in character since you're in the audience's view for such a long time."

"Also, moving all the equipment it pretty hard since you have to be gentle with the platforms. There are around ten huge ones and a bunch of smaller ones, some of which require a lot of people to move."

ADJUSTING LIGHTS to the new space poses its own challenges, according to Light Master Sam van Loon, junior.

"This year we need to do the lights in one day," Sam said. "The space we are designing with is difficult and we have to raise a grid this year and do all the other challenges we always have like getting the lights into focus."

OTHER MASTERS and crew heads are as follows: **Sound**, Jack Reece; **publicity**, Sarah Hecht; **furniture and props**, Mattie Greenblatt; **shop**, Sarah Hecht.

Other cast members are as follows: **Viola/Cesario**, Julia Murmann; **Olivia**, Sarah Pan; **Sir Andrew Aguecheek**, Loren Sosnick; **Marvolio**, Sam van Loon; **Fool/Feste**, Zoe Briskey; **Fabiana**, Valentina Gardner; **Orisno**, Vivek Sarma; **Valentine**,



Photo by Jarrett Lampley

Showing actors the steps in a dance she choreographed, Alina Cui (left) used the motions of a storm as inspiration for the first piece in this year's Spring Production of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."

Alex Soto; **Curio**, Elizabeth Schidott; **Sebastian**, Sebastian Labossiere; **Antonio**, Autumn Espinosa; **Captain**, Alex Soto; **Priest**, Emma Gosset; **1st Officer**, Alex Soto; **2nd Officer**, Elena Graziani; **Narrator Trio**, Alex Soto, Autumn Espinosa, Emma Gossett; **Attendants**, Elena Graziani, Elizabeth Schidott.

Senior Prom

(continued from front page)

students are only paying for their meal, catered by Food for Thought. The planetarium, photo booth and DJ Chicago will all be paid for by Prom Committee fundraising."

According to Dean of Students Ana Campos, the planning and fundraising has been primarily student run.

"**I HAVE ONLY** inserted myself when it comes to deadlines for payment," Ms. Campos said. "The Planetarium and Food for Thought are very expensive. In order to save money, Prom Committee will create their own centerpieces and Stuart-Rodgers Photography members are coming for free."

"Early on, I spent time and composed a list of fundraising ideas, but Prom Committee has done all the fundraising."

Because of the expense of the venue and catering, the Prom Committee has been doing more than the traditional bake sales and candy grams according to Ellen.

"**EVERY YEAR**, Connections sponsors a couple student groups and this year Prom was lucky enough to be one of them," Ellen said.

"We raised \$300. In addition, every Tuesday, we earn a part of the profit when we help sell and serve Aramark special lunches in the cafeteria."

Graduation

(continued from front page)

decide the audition schedule, finding out if seniors were interested in speaking, running auditions, reading speeches, determining which acts would perform at graduation and which would perform at the senior luncheon.

"In addition to that, they also determined which teachers would receive honorary diplomas. We took care of the big picture stuff and then they had to plan out the rest of the day down to the most minute details like the order of performances, things like that."

THIS YEAR'S Commencement speaker Graham Moore, author of New York Times Bestseller "The Sherlockian" and screenwriter for the upcoming film adaptation of the famous novel "The Devil in the White City," was proposed to the committee by Katie Harris, who will present him to the class at Graduation. Ms. Campos feels that Mr. Moore will bring a unique mix of youthful approachability and knowledge to his speech.

"When Graham Moore was first proposed as a potential speaker, I had never heard of him before and had to do some research," Ms. Campos said. "He sounded great. We approached him and he was really flattered to be invited, never anticipating that he'd be back in his early 30s to give a speech at Lab."

"I think his age really appealed to the committee. His youth helps him connect and remember his time at Lab really well, but he's also old enough to bring some experience and wisdom to his speech."

SENIOR SONIA BOURDAGHS will be performing at graduation with her band, Note to Self.

"I'm really excited to perform with the group I've been with since sophomore year at graduation," Sonia said. "Max and I played at 8th grade graduation so we feel very fortunate that we got the opportunity to perform again. It'll definitely be a bittersweet moment because I've been practicing with Max, Carah and Charles most Sundays for the past three years. It'll be kind of the culmination of all that practice we've done together."

"The song we're performing is 'On Top of the World' by Imagine Dragons. It's a song about all the things that you've accomplished and just trying to seize the moment and enjoy life."

ONE OF TWO students speaking at Graduation, Senior Class President Lillian Eckstein feels that the lineup of student and faculty contributors represents the Class of 2014's unique experience at U-High.

"The people who are going to be participating in the graduation ceremony, whether as part of a musical act or as speakers, are representative of the diverse people in our grade," Lillian said.

"Our grade has a lot of strong, opinionated people, and through that I think we have a very strong voice."

"**GRADUATION IS A TIME** to recognize contributions people have made whether to the Lab or greater Chicago community because there's not a single boring person in our grade."

"Everyone has their own unique passions, and that's what makes us interesting."

A TASTY SPRING



Thanks to parent Ling Markovitz, 16 U-High student journalists journeyed to the Loop for a tour of WBBM-TV, channel 2. They saw all aspects of producing a newscast and were in the control room, newsroom and the studio, where Alex Harron and Luke Murphy took the anchors' chairs with Benji Wittenbrink. Directing them is Edie Kasten, Ms. Markovitz's friend and a veteran writer and special projects producer who has been the recipient of numerous Emmy awards and other honors.

After the tour Mr. Brasler treated everyone to lunch on Michi-

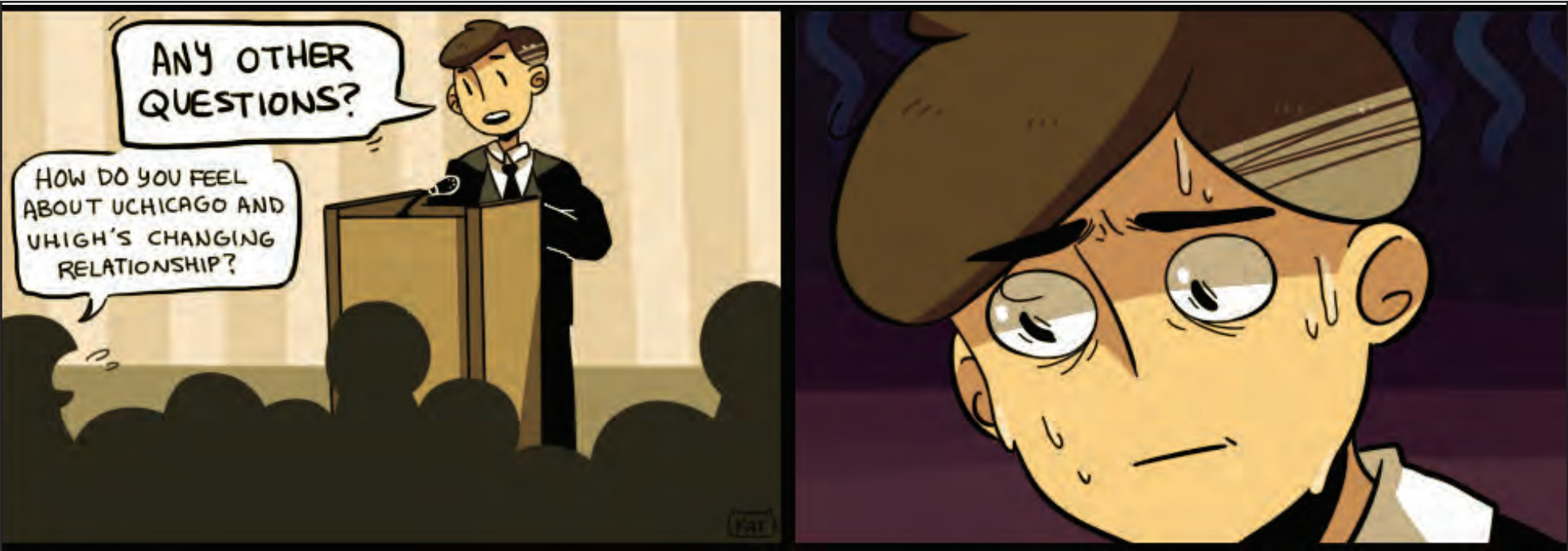


A beautiful May 7 following a Winter which seemed to linger forever proved perfect for the annual junior and senior picnic in the courtyard. An adult who took the photo but asked not to be credited observed "You people do get fed here a lot, don't you."



Administrators, faculty and staff got fed twice May 9. The Parents' Association sponsored this Teacher Appreciation breakfast in the morning, then the Qadir family treated everyone to a delicious lunch buffet. The day before department heads had feasted at their monthly meeting courtesy Principal Scott Fech, and the day before that the entire faculty at its May meeting enjoyed a buffet sponsored by the library staff and Journalism Department. A teacher contributed this photo, then dived in.

Political power shifts, changes of



Cartoon by Kat Flocke

U. of C.'s changing role in Lab Schools shifts to new dynamic

By Julian Lark
Associate editor

"The Laboratory Schools are home to the youngest members of the University of Chicago's academic community."

So begins the Laboratory Schools' Mission Statement, implemented last Fall after a year of discussion by a committee of administrators, faculty and students. This Statement is unlike any in Lab Schools' 118-year history, and alongside the U. of C.'s involvement in the Lab Schools' expansion and other initiatives, seems to signal a change in tact from the distance put between the two institutions in the 1980s and 90s.

IN THE 1980S, a University committee including Lab Schools administrators, faculty members and parents formed the Lab Schools' Board of Directors to replace the U. of C.'s Precollegiate Board. The effort strived to establish the Lab Schools as an independent school linked with community leadership and new opportunities for financial resources to secure new educational opportunities, according to Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler,

the only remaining faculty member originally on the Board's forming committee.

IN RECENT YEARS however, numerous ties with the U. of C. have grown stronger. For example, the Summer Link program, a summer internship program for U-Highers at the U. of C. running since the 1990s, has expanded to include internships at non-scientific sites. The U. of C. appoints both the schools' director, currently David Magill, and a liaison to the school, Executive Vice President David Greene.

Growth, according to Lab Schools Director David Magill, here 11 years and about to retire, has come primarily from the U. of C.'s development of a larger faculty and more ambitious vision of its future.. He believes the two institutions have always had a relationship central to both of their respective identities. It has also enriched the school's divesity.

"At one point in time, before my appointment as Director, the make-up of this school was more like 50 percent U. of C.-affiliated, 50 percent not," Mr. Magill explained. "However, the percentage of U. of C.-affiliated students grew as the U. of C.

grew, partially because they always get first priority in admission.

"Irrespective of the demographic break-up over time, we've always been an arm and vital component of the U. of C. That's why there was a conscious statement in the latest version of the Mission Statement that outlined that Lab students are '...the youngest members of the University of Chicago's academic community.'"

Still, an effort to preserve a non-U. of C.-affiliated student population has guided administrators' decision to grow, according to Mr. Magill.

HOPING TO CONSERVE the individual attention considered a part of the Lab Schools experience, administrators decided to split the existing three schools into five divisions, Nursery School (Nursery and Kindergarten), Primary School (1st and 2nd grades), Lower School (3rd through 5th grades), Middle School (6th through 8th grades), and the High School, (ninth through 12th grades).

"One thing we looked at seven or eight years ago was defining what kind of school we are," Mr. Magill said. "The question was: will we be an all-U. of C. school? Will we split the campus to accommodate the growing number of U. of C.-affiliated students? It was a question of

From Midway chief-in-chief to Mayor's senior adviser

By Julian Lark
Associate editor

A four-by-eight foot whiteboard adorned with a drawing of an eco-friendly run-off gutter on one wall faces floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking West Washington Street from City Hall's fifth floor.

An out-dated Zenith television sits on the edge of a cabinet, its untouched remote propped on a Christ-kindlmarkt Chicago souvenir.

From the hall the sound of never-ending telephone rings clash with the clack of David Spielfogel, senior adviser to the Mayor, typing onto his computer keyboard.

AT THE AGE OF 35, few other people could claim the 31 spot in the May, 2014, issue of Chicago Magazine's 100 Most Powerful Chicagoans that David Spielfogel does.

The Class of 1995 U-High graduate serves as right-hand man to Mayor Rahm Emanuel A Midway editor-in-chief, Mr. Spielfogel went on to study at University of Michigan and graduate from the London School of Economics.

Since then, he has maintained a constant presence in politics, starting out as an aide in the Clinton Administration, then helping out with Howard Dean's 2000 presidential bid, President Barack Obama's election in 2004, and working on the failed Alexi Giannoulas 2010 senate campaign, all before supporting Mayor Emanuel in his 2011 elec-

tion. From that point forward, Mr. Spielfogel has made himself a presence in City Hall, described by the Chicago Sun-Times as one of the Mayor's closest friends and advisers, an "éminence grise" on the Fifth Floor.

A LAB SCHOOLS student beginning in 7th grade, Mr. Spielfogel doesn't describe himself as having been a die-hard Labbie but even so described his experience at U-High as a positive one.

"I learned a ton at U-High because the teachers cared a lot and would hold us to go beyond assumptions high-schoolers usually would make," Mr. Spielfogel explained.

"For me the biggest lessons were outside the classroom, though, like editing the Midway, which was then on the second floor of the main building, and working outside of school. The way you learn is through experience, not just sitting in a classroom."

MR. SPIELFOGEL CITES U-High's community service program as an inspiration for his interest in Public Policy.

"I was always interested in Public Policy, and wanted to make a difference in that field," he said. "When I was at U-High, for my community service hours I volunteered at the I Have A Dream project, which was John Rogers' initiative that adopted a Chicago Public Schools class, provided them tutoring and mentoring,

and guaranteed that if they worked hard and graduated high school, he would pay for their tuition at any college.

"I'd go two nights a week to the basement of this church on the South Side to help tutor the kids. It's funny to look back now, because a kid named Arne Duncan was the one managing the program. I think a lot of U-Highers go through the Community Service process and really learn to give back to their communities."

AN ACTOR at U-High, Mr. Spielfogel went on the exchange trip to the United Kingdom.

"I remember him as being a really creative student actor," Drama Teacher Liucija. Ambrosini said.

"We did an exchange trip with a school theatre in England, and so we took 'Alice in Wonderland' to England. That was intense. He played the King of Hearts, and I remember he did a really good job of it."

HIS SENIOR YEAR, Mr. Spielfogel became a Midway editor-in-chief at a dynamic time for the paper,

according to Journalism Teacher Wayne Brasler.

"David was in Journalism at a good time for the Midway," Mr. Brasler said. "It was a politically-charged exciting chapter+ both for the school and for high school journalism. He was an engaging and fun person to work with, someone I always saw as a fellow journalist as well as a student."



Photo courtesy of Brooke Collins, City of Chicago

DAVID SPIELFOGEL

"I was always interested in Public Policy."

vision in the U-High community

how to grow and yet maintain a distinct community.

“That’s why we now have five divisions, so that the adults in each continue to be able to know all the students in their division. Also, at the time when we were making these decisions regarding growth, we realized that in many cases we wouldn’t be able to fit in the siblings of non-U. of C.-affiliated students already enrolled, and that’s obviously a situation we don’t want to put families in.”

FROM MR. MAGILL’S point-of-view, the relationship the two institutions have is symbiotic, as U-Highers gain from access to U. of C. resources while recruiting at the U. of C. is aided by the priority faculty students are promised in admission.

“We serve the U. of C., they serve us,” Mr. Magill said. “It’s a mutually beneficial situation. It’s also a great opportunity for the U. of C. to recruit faculty, as they have an advantage by having the Lab Schools. The best professors possible will often want a good place for their children to go to school, and in that Lab is a deal clincher.”

For longtime science teacher David Derbes however, issues of diversity that come with the U. of C.’s increased Lab Schools involvement are particularly important when it seems that U-High is being adversely affected.

“OUR STUDENT BODY breakdown between U. of C.-affiliated and other students is a bit of a delicate thing,” Mr. Derbes, U-High teachers since 1986, said. “Where the children of U. of C. faculty and administrators used to make up half of our student body, it now looks more like sixty percent of it. This is not to say that that is necessarily a bad thing, in fact U. of C.-affiliated U-Highers are often very intelligent, it just means that we lose a certain socio-economic diversity in the long run.”

Additionally, Mr. Derbes feels that Lab Schools administrators are not making decisions on many aspects of Lab Schools expansion, in the form of construction, restructuring, and increased enrollment.

“Since the U. of C. is growing, it means that there would exist financing from them for such growth,” Mr. Derbes said. “Problem is, U-High didn’t decide to grow, but was

instead forced into it. That’s not necessarily entirely bad, but it means that the real decision-makers are not here at U-High.

“IT’S NOT CLEAR to me that the U-High administration decides according to their will. I think our administration should have more authority, and even though it’s not really stated, you get the sense that for instance we’re becoming a lot larger than we might want to become.”

Longtime History Teacher Susan Shapiro recalls a time in which U. of C. and U-High had a far more distant relationship.

“There was a period when there wasn’t much exchange between U-High and the U. of C., but in the last seven or eight years there has certainly been an increase,” Mrs. Shapiro explained.

“That comes in the form of the expanded Summer Link program, more professors physically visiting the school and more experts coming to talk. More and more the U. of C. has been emphasizing the need for their faculty to be available to U-High. When asked to come and present or discuss, U. of C. professors now feel a certain obligation to cooperate.”

PRINCIPAL SCOTT FECH, in his second year here, says he has not seen previously a school whose students have such access to university-level resources. Having attended a conference of lab schools, schools based around the principles of John Dewey, Principal Scott Fech said that U-High benefits from its relationship with the University of Chicago.

“We’re fortunate to have President Robert Zimmer and numerous administrators at the U. of C. as former U-High parents,” Mr. Fech said. “It is part of what creates this very supportive relationship that the construction would not be possible without. The construction is also a sign that the U. of C. sees U-High as important to their welfare, and not just as an add-on.

“I went to a conference recently of different ‘lab’ schools across the country, and we often come out on top with regards to the benefits we get from the U. of C.’s support.

“WE HAVE BOARD members from the U. of C., actively engaging different departments there so that there’s more possibilities for U-Highers to also work in labs, or do research, or to talk to experts in a wide range of fields. Recently discussions to that end were also held with the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts.”

Still, for many faculty and parents, the financial relationship between the two is unclear, according to longtime History Teacher Paul Horton.

“If students and parents want to know more about who’s paying whose debts, they need to ask the Budget Director or the President of the University,” Mr. Horton said.

“YOU NEED TO essentially go to the source because most people don’t have much, if any, knowledge regarding exactly where our money is going. For example, in the past most tuition increases have been blamed on faculty salaries. This last one was for the first time pinned on extant dbt accumulated by the school.”

Mr. Derbes also voiced concerns over the accountability that exists surrounding financial transactions between the institutions.

“It’s part of the problem that we don’t know how much control the University has over our affairs,” Mr. Derbes said. “It’s complicated. The relationships between U-High and U of C departments are good: unbelievable resources, available labs, and if a teacher wants, they can call up within minutes an authority in any field they choose. Aside from engineering of course.

“The downside of that is that the University continues to finance us to an extent. The kicker though is that we don’t know anything about the flow of finances between us and them.”

Evolving Hyde Park Herald thrives in community leadership

By Raghu Somala
Associate editor

With newspapers in large cities, small towns and small towns within communities losing circulation and ad sales and, finally, either gone to strictly online presence or no presence at all, the Hyde Park Herald, the vhistoric vweekly serving Hyde Park, Kenwood, Woodlawn and enjoying wie readership among University of Chicago-affiliaed readers living across Chicago and its suburbs and northern Indiana, is still thriving.

Its presence as a source of both news and business and civic leadership for the community continues undimmed and , in the opinion of many obsevers, at a new peak.

WITH THE LAUNCH of its website late 2012, the Herald maintains a readership of 800 to 1,200 unique readers a week, even with the advent of online social media crumbling other newspapers.

The Hearld is owned and published by journalism legend as both a journalist and a publisher-Bruce Sagan, father of Paul Sagan, the Midways editor-in-chief in 1997.

. After its founding in 1882 when Hyde Park was a sleepy suburb, the Herald evolved from a suburban newspaper covering the local government to its current status as an urban neighborhood newspaper.

“The success of the Hyde Park Herald is directly linked with the success of the community,” Editor Gabriel Piemonte said. “The Herald has a laser like focus for news solely in Hyde Park, and is not interested in news anywhere else.

“WE WANT TO KNOW

what is going on in our neighborhood no matter how small, from a local bake off to a boy getting his eagle scout badge. This along with the consistent ownership has allowed us to become independent and offer meaningful news rather than the generic news provided by other corporate newspapers.

“Even with the hits that the print version has received from the online social media, we have more readers for print than we ever had in the past five years.”

With the launching of the website, the Herald also created a podcast and blog to further reach out to the community.

“THE PODCAST, called This Week in Hyde Park, offers the subscribers of the digest a audio and partial video summaries of the top stories featured on the Herald,” Mr. Piemonte said. “It is available on the righthand side of our website, and is another experiment, testing the waters of online journalism. We are trying to figure out what people are interested in, with stories like the U. Chicago Film Crew filming a burning laptop.”

A former Midway reporter and associate editor, Herald Assistant Editor Jeffrey Bishku-Aykul, U-High class of 2007, views the launching of the blog, in particular, as an experiment in the future of community journalism.

“Launching the website allowed us to evolve along with the new age of online social media, introducing new ideas such as the Hyde Park Herald Blog,” Mr. Bishku-Aykul said. “The purpose of the blog is to reach a younger demographic of journalists and readers. Community journalism is often geared towards people with long time interest in the com-



Photo courtesy Marissa Page

An outstanding member of the Midway staff all four years of high school, Jeffrey Bishku-Aykul, Class of 2007, now serves as assistant to the editor of the Hyde Park Herald.



Photo courtesy Alexandra Thompson

Sophomoe Mingus Hoffman-Zoller is among hundreds of U-Highers over the years who have interned at the Herald. One went on to serve as an editor one summer.

munity while this blog is a reflection of the community through the eyes of the younger people.

“WE WANT TO REACH student journalists as well, to give them experience writing and incorporate younger voices to the Herald. The blog overall is an experiment for the online version of the Herald: allowing us to test what works and what doesn’t.”

Tying U-High to these changes at the Herald, sophomore Mingus Hoffman-Zoller at the beginning of the school year began an internship at the Herald, photographing for the blog.

“Since I had taken photography classes at the Hyde Park Art Center freshman year, my parents thought it would be a good idea for me to take pictures for the Hyde Park Herald,” Mingus said. “They

have me take pictures around Hyde Park that had a common theme and send it to the assistant editor when I wanted.

“AFTER A WHILE they started to give me legitimate assignments for the Herald, which I would get when the full time photographers weren’t available. It was a great learning experience. The full time photographers would give me advice on approaching people for photos, because it can always be awkward staring through the lens of the camera while people are doing things.”

“The Hyde Park Herald has always been a part of my family’s life, so I have read it since I was a kid. I think it is great that they launched a website and a blog because it helps the younger generation connect to the old community newspaper.”

As the Midway sees it

Help! We are drowning in honors assemblies

Throughout the year, a myriad of students have received recognition for their achievements at quarterly awards assemblies organized by Principal Scott Fech with the help of other faculty members.

Some students have been recognized for Model UN or debate, others for sports. Yet, despite the school’s efforts to use these assemblies to reduce the length of the year-end awards ceremony, they have ended up becoming public relations programs where faculty give themselves pats on the back for their part in students’ accomplishments as the student body dutifully applauds.

ADMINISTRATORS AND teachers listen with smiles to the various accomplishments while many students work diligently to complete homework for their 5th period classes.

“I think the assemblies take up too much time,” senior Eliot Levmore said, reflecting what many U-Highers told the Midway. “We certainly appreciate other people’s accomplishments—sports awards are great, for example—but some parts of the assemblies are too long and unnecessary.

“The assemblies should be replaced by announcements in the Bulletin. I think about 20 percent of students are studying during the assemblies, and most of the other ones are talking to their friends. I don’t think the assemblies promote achievement or encourage kids to work harder in any meaningful way.”

AS MANY students sit hearing only a few words here and there, the adults listen intently, looking satisfied.

Mr. Fech, who began the assemblies last year, feels the school should

recognize more students, even if doing that consumes more of students’ time.

“We’re changing a culture as we change the way in which the awards are given,” Mr. Fech explained. “It’s not only the adults’ responsibility to let us know what’s going on.

“We have to hear from everyone, including students, if we are going to recognize everyone that deserves recognition. I go through the Daily Bulletins to do my best to make sure we’re recognizing what we should be.

“It’s hard to catch everything, though. We don’t want to err on the side of recognizing too little.”

THE SCHOOL HAS CERTAINLY done a good job recognizing what some students have accomplished. However, it’s debatable whether the school should prioritize all of these awards and announcements over the little free time students have come to have.

“Other schools have assemblies where they congratulate people on college acceptances or scholarships and other major awards,” Eliot said. “I think it makes sense to talk about unusual awards, such as the Intel competition and school records that have been broken, but trivial things that happen all the time are too much.

“I have been called up for minor math awards and am conscious of the fact that other people are bored.

“YOU KNOW what would have been cool? Hearing senior Rahul Mehta, our Intel Finalist, speak for 10 minutes about his computer science research. That would have been really interesting and fun.”

The awards may seem repetitive at the quarterly assemblies, but even at



Editorial cartoon by Lydia Fama

the year-end awards ceremony most students who win awards will not be first-time winners.

On June 9, we will once again cram into the I-House to recognize the top students in science, English, the arts and just about every other class and activity offered at U-High. Teachers will confirm what we have known the entire year, that Person X or Person Y has won Award Z, again.

“IN TERMS of the end of the year awards ceremony, it’s a long time to sit without getting an award,” Mr. Fech said. “In my opinion, however, the reason that there is an awards ceremony should be to celebrate what we as a community have accomplished.

“We have a relatively small community, and what we accomplish is amazing. People should celebrate the fact that they go to school with students doing some really remarkable things.”

Mr. Fech has the right idea, but the school has not hit the nail on the head in practice yet. Students who don’t get the awards do not always embrace the awards assemblies, and neither do many students who do get awards.

INSTEAD OF celebrating a student becoming the best or doing something never done before, we now celebrate awards without stopping to think what these awards really mean.

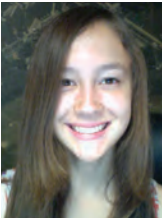
That’s not what this school has ever been about, but you would not know that at our awards ceremonies.

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Midway columnist

Finally.

That’s the word that kept going through my head as I watched seniors unite during our final class-wide Spirit Week. Members of the Class of 2014 sported fraternity “bro-wear,” red, white and blue clothing, college t-shirts and, finally, our baby blue XIV shirts. Finally. I watched seniors share water guns as we waited outside Kovler Gymnasium, waiting to ambush the junior class after their assembly. Finally. We played fort wars later that same day with music blasting in the cafeteria. I guess the “save fort wars” fad wasn’t for nothing.

This is what I thought high school would be like. Perhaps that’s naïve of me, but as I went through the



Sonia

blur of our last few days together, I felt like I finally got the experience I’d been promised via Disney.

It’s true that our class shenanigans were cautious at best to avoid a repeat of last year’s administrative reaction when students who participated in the senior prank were told to choose between May Project and Prom. In fact, we actually ran our practical jokes by Dean of Students Ana Campos prior to their execution. Although this detracted from the rebellious aspect of our water-gun-show-down, it did result in a larger turnout for the prank than in previous years. The crowd of seniors engaging in our preapproved mischief was considerable and added to the feeling of grade pride that permeated the day.

The shouts and solidarity felt among seniors as we took dozens upon dozens of photos of our grade, “Lifers,” teammates, journalism coeditors, and every other grouping of seniors we could come up with was a little surreal. It felt like everyone was trying to

pack in four years of school spirit and high school experiences into a few days.

Next Fall, there will be no U-Highers who remember the previous daily schedule. During just four short years, our class experienced a change in schedule, principal, vice principal and dean of students.

Not to mention the addition of Earl Shapiro Hall and the construction that has in many ways, pardon the pun, obstructed our senior year.

Next year we will split off to go to college, work and join ballet companies. Even now we begin that splintering process as many of us pursue May Projects.

It’ll be strange, no doubt, to not see the familiar faces some students have been seeing for over a decade. I’m glad to know, though, that on some rough college day five or six months from now, I’ll take comfort in the memory of jamming out to “All Star” by Smash Mouth with the Class of XIV.

Quick Q

If you had a million dollars, what’s the first thing you would spend it on?



Leah

LEAH BARBER, senior: College.

BELLE PON, junior: I would start saving for college. Whatever’s left would go toward my parent’s retirement fund. Yeah, I like to plan for the future.

CHARLIE BILLINGS, sophomore: I would buy a private island and donate the rest of my money to charity.



Charlie



Belle



Alex

ALEX AZAR, freshman: I would buy a navy Tom Ford suit that I saw in a catalog. The best features are the cut and wide peaked lapel. Unfortunately, it costs fifteen thousand dollars, so I would only buy one.

—Compiled by Marissa Martinez



Published nine times during the school year by journalism and photojournalism students of University High School, 1362 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637. Phone 773-702-0591. FAX 773-702-7455. E-mail wbrasle@ucls.uchicago.edu. Copyright 2014 University High School, Chicago, Journalism Department. Printed by FGS, Broadview, Illinois.

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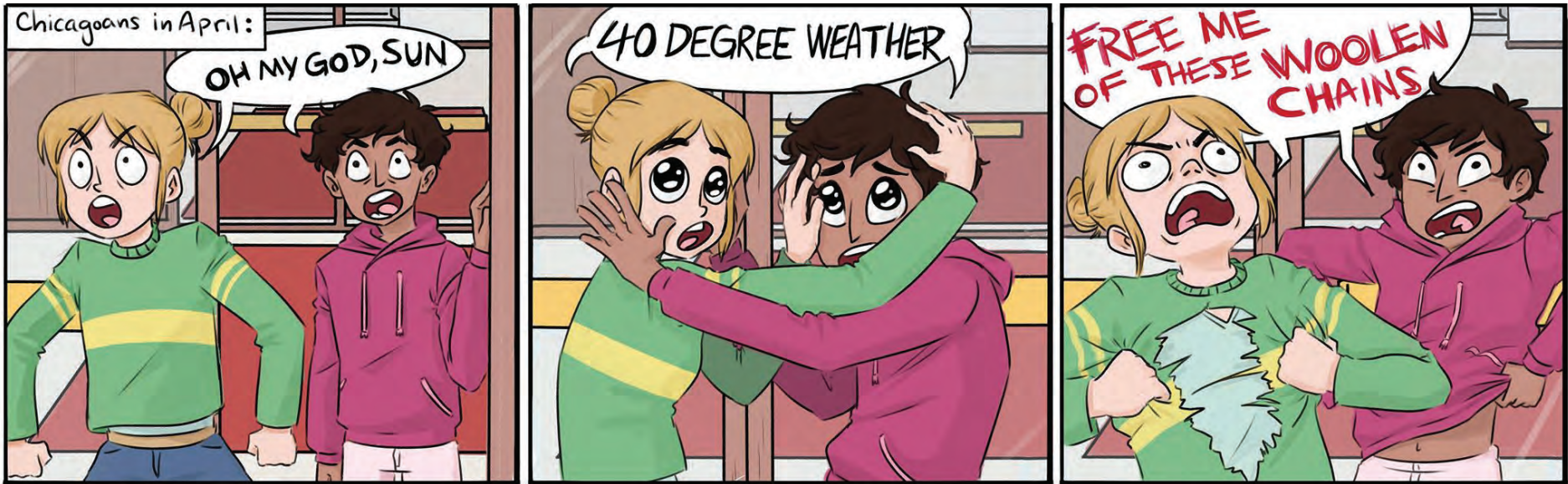
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Mini quiches, big breakfast flavors

By Mia Luo
Cooking columnist

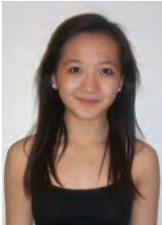
In need of a good breakfast food to fuel your finals? With that last stretch of school coming up, I know from experience that getting out of bed and getting to class on time is becoming less of a priority. Nothing will motivate you like the promise of a quiche with a little bite of green pepper, but with only five minutes left till 8 who has time to cut a slice? Enter the no-fuss mini quiche.

- You will need:
- 2/3 cup shredded Swiss cheese
 - 1/3 cup diced ham
 - 1/3 cup diced green peppers
 - 4 eggs
 - 3 Tbsp. cream or milk
 - 1/4 tsp. salt
 - 1/8 tsp. pepper
 - 2 packages refrigerated biscuit dough, 20 total (I used Pillsbury Grands! Jr. Biscuits)
 - muffin tin
 - Pam or other cooking spray/butter

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Dice the ham and green pepper. In a bowl, mix together the cheese, ham and green peppers. In another bowl, whisk together the eggs, cream or milk, salt and pepper until the mixture is well blended.

Open and separate the pieces of biscuit dough. Grease the cups of your muffin tin. Put each dough circle into a muffin cup. Press the biscuits firmly against the bottom and sides of the cups. Put 2 tablespoons of cheese mixture into each biscuit cup. Then, divide the egg mixture evenly into all of the cups.

Bake the quiches at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes until the filling is set. Remove from the pan and serve warm for a real pick-me-up.



Mia



Photo courtesy Mia Luo

After 25 to 30 minutes of preparation, these savory, nutritious mini quiches will fill you up right out of the oven.



Photo from afterthecut.com

Their relationship hanging by a thread following the news of her pregnancy, Cleveland Browns coach Sonny Weaver Jr. (Kevin Costner) and girlfriend Ali Parker (Jennifer Garner) strategize in “Draft Day.”

Amid personal struggles, a tough decision for ‘Draft Day’ coach

By Christine Obert-Hong
Film critic

With not only the stress of the National Football League (NFL) Draft a week after his father’s death on his shoulders, but also the stress of becoming a father, and the possibility of being fired, Sonny Weaver Jr. (Kevin Costner) balances all of this to make a big decision in “Draft Day.”

This sports drama has received both scathing and affectionate reviews. While Richard Roeper of the Chicago Sun-Times gave the film a “B,” calling it sentimental and thoroughly entertaining, Jack Hamilton of Slate, an online magazine, called the film “a movielike infomercial.”

“Draft Day” focuses on the decisions Weaver, the general manager of the Cleveland Browns, has to make when the Seattle Seahawks offers the number one draft pick in the upcoming 2014 NFL Draft in exchange for the Browns’ three first-round draft picks for the next three years.

If he doesn’t, he’ll be fired, but if he does and the number one draft pick just isn’t cut out for the big leagues, he’ll be fired as well.



Christine

Right from the get-go it’s obvious the cast director, John Papsidera, has picked a talented cast. Costner, who won two different Academy Awards for “Dances with Wolves,” adds just the right amount of tension to Weaver’s demeanor to create a believable character.

Meanwhile, both Weaver’s girlfriend, Ali Parker (Jennifer Garner), and the Browns’ head coach, Vince Penn (Denis Leary) use sarcasm to bring a dry and biting sense of humor to the film.

Practically every aspect of the film is energetic. The music almost always has a trumpet playing along or a computerized undertone, which gives the scene a bit more energy than it would otherwise. The slower pieces of music, usually a series of bass notes, don’t add any energy to the film, but tense dialogue and dramatic scenes always make up for it.

All of the Browns’ staff wears grey clothes, whether it’s a suit or workout clothes, which makes the orange highlights of the team’s headquarters stand out vibrantly.

Instead of focusing on the tension felt by football players during the season, “Draft Day” focuses on the tensions felt by everyone involved, including the general managers, the draft picks, and the fans. It shows a different point of view towards the sport, and that is what makes it a film worth watching.

Trilogy of albums concludes calmly, consistently

By Marissa Page
Music critic

Highlighting vocals and placing less of an emphasis on instrumentation than her previous two records, Swedish indie pop singer-songwriter Lykke Li’s third studio album “I Never Learn” paints a cohesive, serene picture while remaining interesting and enjoyable throughout.



Marissa

Born Li Lykke Timotej Svensson in Ystad, Skåne, Sweden in 1986, Lykke Li grew up in an artistic house-

hold, her mother being a photographer and her father a member of the Swedish reggae-punk band Dag Vag.

Her first two albums, “Youth Novels” and “Wounded Rhymes,” are the first two entries in a trilogy of records completed by “I Never Learn,” released May 2. Li became known for her introspective and intricate gloomy electro-pop with singles such as “I’m Good, I’m Gone” off “Youth Novels,” the song “Possibility,” which was her contribution to the soundtrack for the teen supernatural romance “The Twilight Saga: New Moon,” and her most famous track “I Follow Rivers” off “Wounded Rhymes,” which

received radio play across the nation.

Whereas on her first two records Li experimented instrumentally, lyrically and even vocally, on “I Never Learn” she shifts her focus to creating a consistent, much less overwrought record. Other than strong percussion throughout, the accompaniment is usually muted, and it’s often difficult to distinguish which instruments are included in each song.

Key tracks include “No Rest for the Wicked,” with its gorgeous piano melody and slow, powerful chant-like vocals; and “Never Gonna Love Again,” which follows the trend of effective, simple repetition that plays over this entire album.



A Director who changed the Lab Schools’ destiny embarks on a new chapter in life

By Sonia Bourdaghs
Editor-in-Chief

After 11 years at the Lab Schools, Director David Magill looks forward to time with his grandchildren, traveling and writing two novels.

A familiar sight in the cafeteria during lunch dining with Jason Lopez, Associate Director of Education Programs, and other faculty members, Mr. Magill will retire this summer. Last Fall, Mr. Magill was hospitalized for two weeks due to an infection, which caused him to miss the beginning



Photo by Liv Rhodes

LAB SCHOOLS DIRECTOR DAVID MAGILL
Eleven consequential years.

of the school year, but he has since recovered and returned to the large desk in his Judd office.

After serving as superintendent of the Lower Merion School District in Philadelphia, Mr. Magill said that he came to the Lab Schools when an executive search firm mentioned the job opening to him.

“I HAD spent 32 years in public education in high quality school districts,” Mr. Magill explained. “I had the opportunity to retire early, but I was not really ready to retire. An executive search asked if I’d interview at the Lab Schools, and one thing led to another and here I’ve been for 11 years.

“My time at the Lab Schools has been the best time of my professional life, which is a long time. I like the freedom to continue outstanding programs and excellence without the mandates of the powers that be in the state and federal governments.”

Mr. Magill helped start the Lab Plus campaign, which ultimately raised \$80 million thanks in part to a large gift from famed filmmaker George Lucas and Ariel Investments president and civic leader Mellody Hobson.

“IT WAS CLEAR that schools couldn’t continue to operate on tuition alone and needed to develop a culture where philanthropy was accepted,” he explained. “We didn’t have enough financial aid for kids who needed it. We had old buildings and learned that we needed to expand the school. We needed to raise dollars for what is happening in Earl Shapiro Hall. We developed a strategy to change that culture so that we could rely on gifts from the parents of kids who go here and alumni.”

To meet with alumni, Mr. Magill has traveled frequently.

“In order to really engage alumni you have to get there, go to them,” he said. “Get to know them. The major areas where we have the most alumni are Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City and Boston. We try to get to at least New York every year cause that’s the next biggest area where we have alumni. We get to the other places at least once every two years. It’s been a lot of fun. It’s great to have them involved.”

AS FOR THE FUTURE of the Lab Schools, Mr. Magill hopes students can get more involved in discussions concerning current issues in the

world.

“Right now you tour around but don’t really sit down to discuss the problems that need to be solved to make the world a better place,” he explained. “I think there is so much talent and great ideas that can come out of young people’s minds. I really think if we give young people a time to talk they can come up with a solution that politicians may not think of.

“The second piece is that in addition to providing the option for you to be leaders, we need to make a focus on cultivating leadership, and how to figure out how to lead rather than just putting you in a position of leadership.”

Mr. Magill said he has many plans to stay busy.

“I’M GOING TO travel and get to know my seven grandchildren better,” he said. “I’ll do some writing and executive coaching—talk to people in leadership positions who might need coaching.”

Mr. Magill also plans on finishing two books, both related to his years as an educator.

“I would like to write about the interface between public and private education,” he explained. “My objective isn’t to make private and independent schools the best in the world or to make public schools the best in the world. My goal is to have all children have a Lab Schools education.

“My other book is an unusual, funny array of situations that have occurred in my career. This book is just to get those stories off my chest, not as a best seller. There are a lot of school bus stories including having a driver stop the bus after hitting two deer and cutting them up for meat and then putting the carcass on the back of the bus.

“HOW CAN THIS happen in a wealthy suburb? Another student fell asleep on a bus for four or five hours and the bus driver didn’t know. He stopped at a Seven Eleven and when he got back he thought the kid was a neighborhood kid that broke in, and told him to leave. So then this kindergartener just sat in a Seven Eleven.”

Among Mr. Magill’s memories of his years with the Lab Schools is Spring Vacation in 2010.

“One of the most meaningful but sad times was when the accident occurred with three students on a bike trip. There was incredible care and planning in celebrating Faith Dremmer’s life and it was tremendously powerful and potent. It showed how meaningful the school can be. It was a sad moment but one the school can be proud of.”

Associate Director going back to roots in California

By Natalie Holley
Associate editor

Following five years at the Lab Schools, Associate Director Jason Lopez will begin his new position at The Pegasus School in Huntington Beach, California.

Chosen by Director David Magill, Mr. Lopez came to the school in the Summer of 2009.

“WELL, MY JOB was technically a new position here,” he said. “Over the 118-year history there have been associate directors, but we have each gotten different assignments. My assignment was the day-to-day running of the school.

“Mr. Magill was working hard to raise money for the Lab Plus campaign, so he assigned me to be here doing the day-to-day activities.

“I’m much more visible than some of the previous Associate Directors because I’m involved with the faculty, students, and teachers. “I got to work on mentorship, hirings, and more which give me more visibility than my predecessors. They’re usually behind the scenes or just staying in an office.”

THE PEGASUS SCHOOL, a private institution associated with the University of California at Irvine, has an enrollment of 565 and serves students pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

“I am going to be the head of school at Pegasus,” Mr. Lopez explained. “It’ll be a new challenge because I’ve never been a director of a school. I’m excited to go back home

to California because it’s home for me, and it’s where my two children, Sine and Sebastian (Class of 2011), live. My wife and I are looking forward to being near them again.”

One of the main components of Mr. Lopez’s position at the Lab Schools was diversity work. He accompanied students to the Student Diversity Leadership Conference for three years in a row and worked with various parent and student groups to improve the culture of the Laboratory Schools.

“AROUND THE TIME the position was created, the Diversity Task Force recommended that someone be in charge of Diversity at the school and that they should also have enough power to create change,” Mr. Lopez said. “Someone who could be political and ideally be high-up in the administration. Mr. Magill basically combined it and searched for someone who could be Associate Director and involved in this type of thing as well.

“The Diversity Statement describes the ideal, and when I got here I thought we had a long way to go. Parents were concerned but weren’t overly organized and didn’t have a unifying voice or organization. Students did things around the school but they were isolated and in pockets. There were no new affinity groups at the time.

“In the last few years, groups like the Muslim Students Association and a Student Diversity Club (DICE), have begun. My position has been helpful because people saw me as the ‘diversity guy’ and were

able to get their needs addressed. For example the first Eid celebration at U-High happened because a few parents approached me about it and I was proud to support them in their efforts.”

ALONG WITH new diversity initiatives, Mr. Lopez worked extensively with the teaching and counseling faculties of U-High.

“I’m very proud of the work we’ve done to grow our learning and counseling department,” Mr. Lopez said. “I think that is something that directly helps students. Our policies now are better than ever before.

“There have always been students at Lab with learning difficulties but by devoting resources and energy, plus being able to hire some additional faculty to address the issue, it’s much better today than it was five years ago.”

MR. LOPEZ has been involved with the planning and opening of Earl Shapiro Hall, the hiring of teachers and principals, and much more.

“Since I’ve been here, it’s kind of funny, I never imagined that we’d hire four out of the five current principals at UCLS. I never imagined that I’d be working with teachers to completely overhaul the teacher evaluation system, I didn’t think we’d re-write the mission statement, and I didn’t think I’d be involved with teacher mentorship. Opportunities came up and were exciting and enjoyable to pursue.”

Along with being surprised by the projects he got to be involved in, Mr. Lopez was also taken aback by the

U-High student body.

“I WORKED in public schools for 20 years before coming to Lab, and my expectations were based on previous experiences I’d had with private school students,” he explained. “I was blown away by how normal the kids are here; they have the same thoughts and feelings, they care deeply about other people. I was quite honestly and pleasantly surprised.

“I was maybe expecting spoiled rich kids not concerned with things outside of their lives. But Lab has such a great smattering of kids from different backgrounds, I was absolutely wrong.”



Photo by Monica Valenzuela

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JASON LOPEZ
The diversity guy.

Six accomplished educators to retire

Being honored at a retirement party 3:30-5 p.m., Thursday, June 5 in Kovler Gym, six teachers who have made notable contributions to life at University High School, are concluding distinguished careers. From the Nursery and Lower schools two other notables, Molly Day and Paige James, also are retiring, and Lab Schools Director David McGill, featured on page 12.

Looking forward to baking at a new home in Michigan

By Clyde Schwab
Midway reporter

Ann Beck never thought she'd be a teacher. "When I came to the University of Chicago to study language, I didn't have any plans to be a teacher," said Mrs. Beck with a small laugh and a big smile. "When I was studying, people weren't thinking too far ahead. They would just do things for the sake of it. When I was



Ms. Beck

in high school, there was even a young teachers program, which I remember scoffing at." A French and Spanish teacher, Ms. Beck began teaching at U-High in 1979. After going to the University of Rochester where she studied Pre-Med and Russian, she went to the University of Chicago to study Russian and enrolled in a teaching program. A lady with an undeniable small stature, Ms. Beck has a big personality. In college she unexpectedly switched her major. "I STARTED STUDYING Pre-Med in college, but because I had this really amazing Russian teacher, I decided to switch to Russian. Ever since I have been devoted to language studies.

"When I finished college, I had no idea what career I wanted to try. I got invited by the University of Chicago to do a MAT, which is a masters in arts or languages and teaching. It's funny because I had never wanted especially to teach before. I just think that life leads you in strange directions.

"After I taught for a year, I decided that I wanted to switch careers. I was at the Illinois State Psychiatric Institute helping troubled children. Even there I worked as a teacher. But after I had a child, I wanted to stay home and I never gave up my language studies."

MRS. BECK finds it hard to pinpoint one thing she'll miss about U-High.

"I am going to miss teaching the classes and interacting with students, but most of all I'll miss the people in the language department. I've been in close proximity with them for a long time now, and I've made some good friends in the department, even outside of school. They were always very respectful, and I love the autonomy I get when teaching here. I'm also going to miss the class itself, and the motivation it gives me to go out of my way to learn as to pass it on to the students."

Mrs. Beck plans to retire to their house in Michigan with her husband, a musician and teacher.

"ONE OF THE BIG reasons why I'm ready to leave is that my husband and I recently bought a beautiful house in Michigan," she said. "I'm ready for a different life. The house has a vineyard, which is a reminder of my time in France. If I can't live in France, I might as well try to feel like I am. I will finally have time for my baking, which I would say is my biggest hobby. I started 30 years ago. Nothing too fancy, just cakes, pie and comfort desserts. I bake every weekend. I want to try baking for a restaurant.

"I also wanted to leave just because I'm getting tired now. I've been here for 35 years; that's a long time to teach in the same place. I figure I deserve some rest after that long."

The second time around but this time is the finale

By Marissa Page
Editor-in-Chief

"How come old teachers stick around so long, you may wonder? Because we don't get old here."

So said history teacher Andrea Martonffy, retiring after the second of her two stints as a faculty member at the Lab Schools.

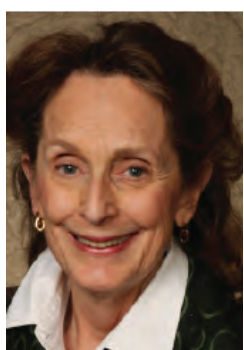
After receiving her B.A. in history from the University of Chicago in 1962, Ms. Martonffy began a year-long internship teaching in the history department at U-High. She was then hired full-time, staying on faculty until 1967, when she began graduate school, going on to get married and give birth to five daughters. She returned in 1998, spending most of her time in U-High's history department teaching AT Modern European History and AT Modern World History. From 2001 to 2004, Ms. Martonffy taught 8th grade humanities

alongside English teacher Catie Bell.

"When I was here for the first time, from I believe 1963 to 1967, it was the height of the civil rights movement," Ms. Martonffy said. "The History department was a wild, unruly place made up of so many interesting characters, each just as unique as the members of that wonderful department today. We'd call in experts in sociology, psychology, anthropology to teach us how to incorporate their disciplines into the teaching of history.

"THE THING that was so amazing is that you immediately took what you were learning and turned it into something concrete, something applicable. It wasn't just dry, dead knowledge. It was a phenomenal time for somebody who loved to learn and loved to share that learning. Somebody who loved to teach.

"I'm going to be taking it a day at a time. The end of something always signals the beginning of something else. I don't have any grand plan at the moment. For next year, I'll still be around part time helping with the Summer Link program, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and University collaborations. After that I know I'd like to do volunteer work, probably with one of my daughters who does incredible work all over the world.



Ms. Martonffy

With luck and good health, that will happen in a few years."

A member of Ms. Martonffy's advisory for all four years of high school as well as her student in AT European History sophomore year, senior Lindsey Aronson spoke to her generous and helpful nature.

"She has always cared so much about me, my fellow advisees and every student she works with," Lindsey said. "It's been so incredible to have her

as an ally in high school."

Enjoying time in France, and maybe still teaching

By Maia Bouussy
Midway editor

Seated at his desk in the Language Office in a white button down shirt on a recent Thursday morning, French teacher Steven Farver sorts photos of his former students.

Retiring after 26 years here, Mr. Farver taught in French in the Lower, Middle, and High schools. In the middle of the year, he replaced a French teacher who had to leave for medical reasons in 1986.



Mr. Farver

Growing up in rural Iowa, Mr. Farver attended Iowa State University, getting his bachelor's degree there. He attended the University of Illinois where he earned his masters degree and then moved to Paris to teach English. He has a minor in Italian and a degree in English, and also speaks German. He was awarded about seven

Honorary Diplomas, an honor given to a teacher elected by the seniors at graduation.

MR. FARVER FELT it was time for him to retire so he could start a new part of his life.

"There isn't one reason I decided to retire," Mr. Farver said. "My brother died of cancer last year and that contributed to the decision, but also I felt like it was a good place to stop.

"I am going to miss the interaction with my coworkers and my students. Working with my colleges on curriculum projects were some of my favorite memories. The collaborative feeling between students and teachers is one of my favorite aspects of the school and I'm really going to miss that."

MR. FARVER PLANS now to travel for six weeks in France.

"I'm planning to travel to France in the Fall to avoid most of the tourists," he said. "I'm going to stay mostly in the south, around Avignon. After that, I am thinking about looking into teaching English to non-native adults.

"I am really interested in this because you are really helping people. I have done teaching programs similar to this before and really want to look into it further for the future."

Going back home and still living an artist's life

By Marissa Martinez
Midway reporter

As many teachers do, Annie Catterson will be moving back to her home state, Massachusetts, and will continue to do what she has always done, living the life of an artist, in her case an accomplished and highly-respected artist and author.



Ms. Catterson

Ms. Catterson moved to Chicago from New England in 1983, and learned about the Lab Schools from a friend.

She started teaching here in 1986. In the past 28 years, she has taught many grade levels, from 3rd graders to High School students.

"I knew I wanted to be an artist since I was a child," Ms. Catterson said. "Drawing, painting, and 'making things' was always

my passion. My father did a lot of drawing and wood-carving, and he was one of my inspirations. I was also encouraged by the many wonderful art teachers I've had throughout my education."

Ms. Catterson has taught many types of media, from self-portraits in her 7th grade classes to linoleum prints in her high school classes.

"It's difficult to single out a particular grade level or project that has been my favorite. I like trying out different things with the kids I teach, using different concepts, materials, and ideas. I'm involved with the process of things, which is why I like printmaking. The best part of teaching is encouraging artistic development and fostering growth.

"After I retire, I'll miss my students who, for the most part, have been tremendously creative and wonderfully receptive to making art. However, I will not miss giving them grades."

A life of many interests will continue, with dogs

By Elizabeth Chon
Midway reporter

From demonstrating a backhand in tennis to typing away in the administrative office, Brenda Coffield has occupied a range of different roles during her career at the Laboratory Schools.

Beginning her job as a physical education teacher in 1973, she has taught Lower, Middle and High School students and also coached basketball, field hockey, tennis and volleyball. She has also devoted time working as an administrator in business management before returning to the Physical Education department.

MS. COFFIELD attended the University of Northern Iowa, where she heard about the Lab Schools from one of her professors.

After working for a few years she left the school to pursue real estate law. She began teaching at Lab



Ms. Coffield

again in 1980. However, Ms. Coffield eventually returned to physical education, teaching students of all grade levels.

"What I love most about being a physical education teacher is seeing the kids in their 'natural state,'" she said. "When they're in gym class, they can let go of themselves and take a break from the daily stresses of their

academic classes."

After retiring, Ms. Coffield plans to devote more of her time to her favorite hobby.

"I raise dogs on a farm and train them for performance activities. I actually have seven dogs right now," Ms. Coffield said. "I enter them in competitions for many different categories, such as rally obedience, earthdog, barn hunt, lure coursing, nose work, and agility."

Self-publishing and still a renowned photographer

By Ariel Gans
Midway reporter

"I've always been a teacher, I just didn't know it."

Beaming under jet-black bangs and red-framed glasses at a vibrant array of frozen expressions, Photography and Photojournalism teacher Liese Ricketts, Midway and U-Highlights photo adviser, clicks and scrolls through digital folders of her students' pictures at her desk as she has been doing during her Monday lunch periods for 26 years.

At 6 feet, Ms. Ricketts is easily distinguished in a Lab Schools crowd. Arriving as a blonde, switching to red, adding a pink streak and then a blue, going a natural grey and recently to black, Ms. Ricketts has fun wherever she goes.

BALANCING HER CAREER in the fine arts with her teaching career, Ms. Ricketts has earned three degrees, has experience working at 14 different institutions, has 103 art exhibitions, been featured in 31 publications, given 11 professional lectures, been awarded nine grants and won eight major awards including an Emmy, all excluding the numerous honors that she has brought to the Lab Schools.

Graduating from Marian Catholic High School and

(continues on page 15)

Clutch hitting, pitching key winning formula for baseball team

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and sports editor

Before facing Conference rivals North Shore and Latin, the varsity boys’ baseball team will take on Chicago Christian today at 6 p.m. at Standard Bank Stadium in Crestwood.

The Maroons (8-2, 5-2 Independent School League as of press time) started off their season with five wins, defeating St. Francis De Sales 2-0 April 1, Jones 11-4 April 5, Elgin 14-4 April 10, Morgan Park Academy 11-1 April 11 and Morgan Park High School 12-10 April 12.

U-High’s come-from-behind win over Morgan Park, sparked by clutch hitting, proved particularly noteworthy, according to junior Benny Friedman.

“**IT WAS A** pretty close game in the beginning, but they were outplaying us by a little bit,” Benny said. “They made a few fewer mistakes than we did up until the last inning and hit a couple balls that were just monster shots. But when it came to the top of the seventh, we had a whole new energy.

“We scored a couple runs by just being smart at the plate, taking walks and running hard. Sophomore Brad Koontz came up with the bases loaded, and, with two strikes, hit a triple over the outfielder’s head. Then Sophomore Joe Curci followed that up with another extra base hit, and Junior Miles Grogger came out and shut the door for us.”

After a 5-2 loss to Northridge April 16 and a 7-5 loss to Latin April 17, U-High brought its bats in a 14-3 dismantling of Parker April 25.



Photo by Daisee Toledo

With his eyes zoned in on the ball, Adrian Castaneda gives the ball a ride in JV’s game against Uno Charter School - Garcia May 2 at Washington Park.

“**EVERY GAME** is big, but the Latin games are especially big,” Benny said. “We should have beaten them. Last year, we lost to them twice, but that had a lot to do with their pitcher, Jackson Bubala, who was an ace. That was our excuse last year, if you want to call it that. This year we don’t have any excuses. We need to take our energy to the next level when we play Latin next.”

AFTER OPENING its season with a slaughter rule victory over Latin April 17, JV lost narrowly to North



Photo by Stacy Stern

Ready to unleash a pitch, Marcel Dupont works from the stretch in JV’s season opener, a 12-2 win over Latin April 17 at the Kroc Center.

Shore April 22 and Parker April 25.

“We have tons of talented freshmen in our starting lineup this year,” sophomore Dylan Olthoff, the JV catcher, said. “Owen Lasko has been pitching really well and will be a key component for varsity in the coming years. Adrian Castaneda and Asha Futterman have been hitting the crap out of the ball, and Ben Grobman and Andrew Pomposelli have been playing really well, too.”

Tennismen gearing up for ISL tourney

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor

Looking to capitalize on experience and upperclassmen leadership, the varsity boys’ tennis team will head to the Independent School League Championships this Saturday at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills.

Coached by Gerold Hanck, the Maroons have already seen the strengths and weaknesses of the other ISL teams. Throughout the season, U-High has continually used players in different roles to give the team the best chance to defeat opponents.

With a strong core of players, the team has tried various lineups, mixing and matching players and pairings in pursuit of the optimal combination, according to junior Rajan Aggarwal.

“One of the most interesting parts of the season has been the change in lineup from last year to this year,” Rajan said. “While it is typical to have a fair amount of turnover following graduation, this year has exceeded the typical amount as we have really experimented with different roles and pairings for everybody to see which combinations set us up for the most success.”

Aligning with U-High’s emphasis on playing with consistency, Rajan says the Maroons have focused on fundamentals in practice.

“Our focus is on consistency and making sure our shots are powerful but also dependable,” Rajan explained. “In practices we focus a lot on the mental side of the game and making sure we balance power, finesse and tactfulness.

“Especially for the doubles teams, there is a lot of strategy involved, so we experiment with possible pairings and strategies such as positioning and poaching.”

In his first year at U-High, junior

George Hamilton has found a niche on the team, noting the Maroons’ ability to balance hard work and fun.

“I’ve noticed that everyone on the team is very close, and they’ve all been welcoming to me,” George said. “We are preparing for the State tournament by experimenting with a lot of different lineups and making sure everyone is playing in the right spot when it counts.

“We’ve had a couple matches this season that have come down to the last court, and it’s definitely a great feeling to win those and know that we worked hard to earn the win.”

Track team brings home gold, silver from ISLs

By Luke Murphy
Sports editor

Narrowly missing a second consecutive boys-girls sweep as Independent School League champions, the U-High track team placed 1st and 2nd in the girls’ and boys’ divisions, respectively, at the ISL Championships May 10.

“The ISL Championship was a wonderful experience,” Sonia said. “Everyone on the team was working together towards the same goal.

“I couldn’t be more proud of how everyone ran. I know we were all very excited going into it, and that energy showed throughout the meet. I was especially proud of junior Tatum McCormick, who threw discuss for the first time and scored points for our team.”

ACCORDING TO SONIA, the Maroons’ varied workouts have prepared them well for their races.

“We’ve been doing a lot of hybrid workouts this year, as opposed to just distance running,” Sonia said. “One or two times a week we will still go on a long run on the lake front that’ll last anywhere from four to eight miles, with the boys runs sometimes lasting longer.

“However, this year we’ve added track workouts of varying distances by combining sprints with mile repeats. We’ve also hired a throwing coach this year that comes once or twice a week to work with me, junior Arthur Chang and senior Rosie Ellis.”

“**WE WON OUR** most recent meet against Chicago Christian for the first time ever. While we always go into meets expecting to win, it was an unexpected honor to come out victorious against some of the best teams in Chicago.

“The Sunday after the Chicago Christian meet, the whole team went to Coach Deborah Ribbens house to do a work out and eat lunch. The plaque we won at the meet was displayed there, and seeing it reminded me of how lucky I am to be a Maroon.”

Goal-scoring onslaught sparks strong stretch for soccer women

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and sports editor

In their second-to-last regular season game, girl soccer players will face Uno Charter School – Garcia today on Jackman Field at 5 p.m.

Through their first eight games, the Maroons (4-8-1 as of press time) outscored their opponents 22-9 on their way to three wins, four losses and a tie. Despite winning none of its first three games—the Maroons tied Illiana Christian 0-0 March 18, lost to Payton 2-0 April 1 and Northside 2-1 April 5—U-High used its match against Northside as a springboard for the season.

“**WE LOST** to Northside, but that game got us started on a run of scoring goals,” senior Lizzie Garrett-Currie said. “Junior Sylvie Manuel scored a really nice goal that game, our first of the season, and once that goal was scored it lifted everyone’s spirits. That’s been a turning point in our season, and we’ve scored a lot of goals since then. Sophomore Ellie Grosse has also been able to finish with composure, which has been a huge asset for us.”

Although the Maroons have proven adept at scoring—including in games against MPA April 11 and Elgin April 26 in which they scored eight goals—Lizzie says U-High’s defense gives opponents the most trouble.

“Our defense is probably our strongest part of the field,” she explained. “We have all seniors who play for us in the back—Fiona Potter, Julia Utset and Natalie Johnson on the wings, Eleanor Schuttenberg at sweeper and Danielle Johnson at stopper. Our backline has really shut down the opposing teams’ attacks, even the offenses of some of the really good teams.”

FIONA AGREED that U-High’s backline has worked well together, noting that the cohesion



Photo by Liv Rhodes

As she charges down the field, Lizzie Garrett-Currie maneuvers around a Parker defender in the Maroons’ 1-0 loss April 22 at home.

has built up over years of play.

“Eleanor and I have been playing together since we were nine or 10,” Fiona said. “We all know how to play with one another, and we know each other’s abilities. We haven’t been working with Danielle as long as Julia, but we’ve really come together. Any time any girl is coming to the goal, from either side or the middle, our defense has stepped up to stop her.

“It’s important that we play as a team. We have eleven seniors, so it can be tough to balance the different grade levels, but we need to focus on working as a unit going forward.”

Sailing club catches wind, eyes growth to official team

By Micaiah Buchheim-Jurisson
Midway reporter

On the frosty afternoon of March 26, as most U-High students rested at home or escaped the cold during their spring breaks, freshman Colleen Baumann, cocaptain of a sailing team of U-Highers, knelt in a small inflatable boat in the harbor at Columbia Yacht Club.

Clad in dry suits and life vests, she and sophomore Will Kent picked at the ice in the harbor with wooden shovels, clearing a route to get their sailboat out.

Sailing on two-person sailboats known as 420s, the team of four—Colleen, Will and sophomores Reed Rosenbacher and Phoebe Lincoln—practices Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at the Columbia Yacht Club downtown.

THE FOUR SAILORS compete in regattas, series of sailing races over one or two days, against schools throughout the Chicagoland area, such as Loyola Academy and Lake Forest Academy.

The team started sailing a few weeks before school in late August and kicked off its season with a regatta on Lake Michigan at the Sheridan Shores Yacht Club in Wilmette September 7-8, at which the team finished 10th of 20 teams.

Traveling by bus, U-High attended Culver Military Academy's regatta in Lake Maxinkuckee near the town of Culver, Indiana October 21-22. Heavy winds on the first day greatly affected U-High, which did not place in any races. Accord-

ing to Reed, heavy winds provide particular problems for the Maroons, who lack the weight to stabilize the boat in rough conditions.

ON THE second day of the Culver regatta, which saw significantly lighter winds, the team found its stride, finishing 5th in every race and placing 7th of 17 overall.

"Our team is physically pretty light," said Reed, cocaptain with Colleen. "This is an advantage for us on light wind days because it means we can move through the water more quickly, but makes it harder to sail on days with heavy wind because we cannot keep the boats flat.

"Either way, we like winning but we're not super competitive. Just being out on the boat in the water is enough for us."

AFTER TAKING a break for the winter, sailing team recently resumed its season over spring break. The team placed 9th of 10 in a regatta at the Columbia Yacht Club March 29-30, but Reed says that the regatta proved a good test for the team since most members took the winter off.

"We didn't do very well at the Columbia regatta," Reed said. "Most of us hadn't sailed in a long time so we were rusty and there was pretty heavy wind. We were also competing against Chicago's best teams, including New Trier and Lake Forest Academy."

Jacob Rosenbacher, U-High Class of 2012 and brother of Reed, started the sailing team when he was a sophomore. There had been another sailing team previously, but, after the members of the team graduated, it quickly disbanded.



Photo courtesy of Reed Rosenbacher

Set to get on their boats and speed through Lake Michigan, Collen Baumann, Phoebe Lincoln, Reed Rosenbacher and Will Kent stand waiting to test the waters. The four sailors have raced in several regattas this year.

"OFFICIALLY, WE'RE a club, not a team," Reed said. "We have to pay for the coaches and get ourselves to practice at Columbia Yacht Club.

"However, we're currently in talks with Mr. Ribbens to try to make the club into an official team. Next year we should probably have enough people for that to happen."

Among other U-Highers involved in boating is junior Alexandra Thompson, who volunteers at Goldman Judd Adaptive Sailing, a foundation that helps the disabled learn to sail.

"I race with my dad as crew on our boat competitively all summer, but last summer I got involved with Goldman Judd through a family friend

who heads the foundation," Alexandra said. "Usually I set up the boats in the morning and sail once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

"MOST OF WHAT I do is help assist people in getting on and off the boats and in teaching the lessons."

While Alexandra loves sailing herself, she also enjoys teaching newcomers to sailing the ins and outs of what to do in the boat.

"Seeing the look of joy on the people I help's faces is really rewarding," Alexandra said. "I love to sail and teaching people what I love to do and at the same time seeing them benefit from it is a really positive experience for me."

Athletic feats outside of U-High add to Maroons' successes

By Mike Glick
Editor-in-Chief and columnist

As the year winds down, I can't help but recount some of the momentous achievements in U-High sports this year.

The boys' basketball team captured the 3A Regional title and finished 12-0 in the Independent School League, defeating each ISL foe twice. In addition, senior Max Rothschild was named ISL player-of-the-year.

The girls' tennis team sent freshman Dhanya Aso-kumar to State, where she showed immense promise as she won three of five matches.

Both boy and girl swimmers shattered record after record, leaving the school too few Maroon letters to put up all of the names in Upper Kovler by the time of the winter awards assembly.

The list goes on, and spring sports teams have the potential to keep adding to the seemingly endless number of accomplishments.

Yet, many students and faculty may not know of the numerous feats achieved by U-High athletes outside Hyde Park, outside Chicago and even outside the country.

Like many U-Highers, freshman David Portugal began his soccer career in the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO). From there, however, he has taken a path quite different from the paths of even the most passionate soccer players at U-High.

"After about two years in AYSO, my dad and I decided to create Chicago United FC," David said. "A lot of the guys from the AYSO team played on that team, but it got pretty competitive.

"When I was about 10, we started collecting some really good players on our team. My team essentially became the Chicago Fire pre-academy team several years ago, and I've been with them for about three years."

David has traveled the world with Chicago Fire, playing teams from as far away as England. He

also participated in a United States national team camp over spring break.

"It's really great to play against players who may be playing at the professional level in four, five years," David said. "It's an honor. I went to Qatar and got to play Manchester City's youth team, and a lot of those guys are going to continue on to the pros.

"Over spring break, I participated in the national team camp in Carson, California. The coaches wanted to see how I fit in with some of the guys on the national team, so I'm considered in the national team pool."

As David established himself on the national and international stages for soccer, senior Natalie Kampf helped bring the Latin girls' hockey team to the State semifinals—further than the team had ever gone. Latin ultimately lost to New Trier—where Natalie attended school her freshman year of high school.

"The New Trier hockey team was really competitive," Natalie said. "Everyone practiced four times a week, and we did a lot off-ice drills. Compared to Latin, it was a lot more serious. You had to be at every practice if you wanted to play in the games.

"For Latin, it was really cool to make it all the way to the semifinal this year. The coaches really turned the team around. It was awesome to finally get there with people I've been playing with for years. We played New Trier in the semifinal game, which was really interesting and obviously a little weird for me. We lost in the last 30 seconds of overtime, and they went on to win the championship."

Although Natalie says several of her friends have watched her games, she says that people's achievements outside of the Lab sports bubble can often go unnoticed. She does not see this as a bad thing; rather, she feels it comes with the territory of playing sports away from school.

"People at Lab mostly know that I play hockey and most of my friends come to a game or two each season," Natalie said. "It's not like the school comes out to support you.

"If you play a sport outside of school, people know that you do it but aren't necessarily invested in how it's going."

Retiring

(continued from page 13)

majoring in Classics at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York, Ms. Ricketts didn't begin to experiment with photography until she was 22.

"I started doing photography when I started living in Peru," she said. "It began just as an artistic expression that I would do while my ex-husband painted. I was always into it but it wasn't until I came back to the United States in 1982 that I decided to get my two masters degrees in photography.

"AFTER COLLEGE I went with my father to Chile, Brazil, Argentina, and Peru to see my family, since my father was born there. The first time I went to Peru was when I was 13 and I stayed with my grandparents for the summer. I fell in love with it and knew that I wanted to come back after college. I ended up living there for 13 years.

"Peru inspires me, period; it's in my blood. I had a hard time separating myself from the culture, the history, and the language. Actually my uncle was the Cardinal of Peru and Archbishop of Lima. His name is Juan Laudazuni Ricketts and he is now up for beatification.

"I remember sitting on his lap when I was six while he let me play with his huge ring. I was fascinated by him and with Peru and since then I've been able to trace my Peruvian-Spanish lineage back to two Conquistadors from the 15th Century.

"BY THE TIME I'd left Peru, I had become fluent in Spanish and a citizen of both Peru and the United States. I met my current husband of 20 years, Thomas Grant here. Thomas is a self-employed cabinet maker but, before I met him, he taught photography."

Coming to the Lab Schools in 1988, Ms. Ricketts had already had experience teaching drama at the Prescott Anglo-American School in Arequipa. From there she became the Director of the Peruvian American Cultural Institute in Arequipa, Peru where she had 2,000 students performing for the city.



Mike



Ms. Ricketts

The Point: A haven with a view



A Fall view of Lake Michigan from three angles

Every year, Photojournalists are asked to do a photo essay. This year Photojournalist Jeff Li decided to do his on Promontory Point Park. "I started taking photos my freshman year, having had no previous experiences with photography let alone photojournalism," Jeff said. "Entering my freshman year, I decided to sign up for Photojournalism on a whim, and actually didn't necessarily meet the prerequisite that we had to have taken Digital Photomedia in Middle School. Luckily for me, signing up for Photojournalism turned out to be one of the things I've developed a passion for. "My thinking behind choosing to do a photo essay on the Point is that the location represents so much to both Hyde Parkers and Labbies. It's

always that place in the summer where people go to chill, hang out, and just relax and bask in the summer sun. "In the other seasons it serves as a destination for walking or thought, looking out on the horizon and skyline. "All my shooting was done in the Fall, which offered an opportunity to best capture the Point with its colorful leaves, wavy water, and breezy weather. The dominant picture on the page showcases the typical area where people go to swim and the beautiful blue of the water. "The photo on the top left of the page reflects the colorful all leaves. And the photo on the left hopefully shows how some people enjoy the peace to oneself that the Point offers. "

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Photo by Fiona Potter
Taking a look at his hairstyle, Luke Newell peers at a mirror to inspect his new summer cut.

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A calm, peaceful stroll along the shore

"This to me is a great angle and shot of the Point in a nutshell where people go to walk and enjoy the sights and weather, with the big backdrop providing nice depth," Jeff said. "There's a good blend of colors, with the blue mixing well with the yellowing leaves."



A lonely building at The Point's peak

"Trees are typically seen in this state for the majority of the year in Chicago and Hyde Park, which I thought was cool to incorporate with the building at the Point," Jeff said. "The building itself has always been a mystery to me, besides the occasional wedding here and there, because it's almost always unoccupied and solemn. The flag adds the final touch to the lone building."

Photo essay by Jeff Li