

U-HIGH MIDWAY

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Students, faculty demand safe spaces



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SOPHIE HINERFELD

DISSECTING SAFE SPACES IN DICE. Sophomore Zoe Dervin speaks at the Diversity Initiatives and Collaborative Efforts (DICE) discussion on trigger warnings, safe spaces and the U. of C. letter to its incoming Class of 2020. The discussion allowed controversial perspectives to be shared about the topics.

BY CLYDE SCHWAB
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A letter about freedom of expression sent to new students at the University of Chicago has sparked debate among U-High students and faculty as they seek clarity on how, if at all, the letter affects the high school.

In August, members of the U. of C. Class of 2020 received the letter, sent by Dean of Students John Ellison, condemning trigger warnings, safe spaces and the shutting down of speakers — staples of the past year's nationwide campus controversies over freedom of expression.

Within weeks, U-High students began discussing the letter and its impact on the role of free expression in the classroom and about whether the letter applies to the high school.

The letter, sent by Dean of Students John Ellison, discussed the university's commitment to academic freedom and inquiry and history of protest, while also emphasizing the need for academic rigor.

U-High Principal Stephanie Weber declined to comment on the letter's content, though she noted that it was meant specifically for the University of Chicago students to which it was addressed.

Despite the lack of an immediate connection to her classroom, history teacher Susan Shapiro saw the letter as an important but clumsy statement about the importance of free and respectful dialogue, even in a school setting.

"Do I consider my classroom a safe space? The short answer is yes," Ms. Shapiro said. "My class is a place where my students may re-

spectfully, honestly and with vigor, disagree with one and other."

Ms. Shapiro, who has been teaching at U-High since 1978, described the importance of students being able to express potentially controversial opinions in order to work through them. However, she also noted the importance of boundaries in a high school setting.

"We are a high school, we are not a college. Our students go home every night to mom and dad," Ms. Shapiro said. "You live in an environment with children a lot younger than you, who don't have the same perspective and are uncomfortable with complex ideas... We have to be conscious of how diverse our community is, and the proposition that one view should become a dominant view or the school is promoting a particular perspective — that, to me, is not safe."

While many agree on the need to express opinions in a classroom freely, several U-High students said they sometimes faced social pressure to hold a certain opinion or stay silent.

"The problem at Lab is there is very little room to think through social issues out loud in a classroom," senior Jacob Mazzarella said. Jacob recounted a discussion in French class last year where he raised questions about the implications of renaming Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy and International Relations given Wilson's racist views and racially regressive policies.

"The mere state of saying I don't know if I'm entirely on one side got people upset and angry," Jacob

"Do I consider my classroom a safe space? The short answer is yes. My class is a place where my students may respectfully, honestly, and with vigor, disagree with one and other."

— Susan Shapiro, history teacher

said. "It devolved to personal attacks because they saw me as representative of conservative, white male institution when in actuality all I was doing was asking to understand both sides and not come to a definitive argument."

Another senior, Asha Futterman, echoed a similar sentiment of sometimes feeling unsafe given her personal opinions on social issues and U-High's predominantly white population. Asha described how defined community norms can make students more comfortable to contribute to classroom discussions.

"Before big classroom discussions happen, you could set up rules or guidelines that would allow for free flowing discussion," Asha said. "Sometimes teachers don't consider identity when facilitating class discussion. You also have to consider things greater than people wanting to express their feelings or staying true to the author. When I feel emotionally unsafe or physically unsafe, I don't feel comfortable contributing. When they feel safe enough to agree and disagree with one another and to think, the most revolutionary ideas will be uncovered."

Spirit Week kicks into gear with PJ day

BY KATERINA LOPEZ
MIDWAY REPORTER

This weekend, the annual Homecoming dance will give students a chance to get away from the stress of school with the theme of "Island Getaway." The dance is Saturday from 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the Chicago Theological Seminary. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Each day this week has had a different theme for Spirit Week. The week is culminating in a Spirit Week Homecoming Assembly on Thursday.

Monday was pajama day, Tuesday was twin day and Wednesday was island shirt day. Today, students wore grade colors, and tomorrow will be maroon day, when peer leaders will paint students' faces in the cafeteria at lunch.

"When we pick a theme for a dance, we always keep students considerations in mind and a lot of people had been talking about some kind of beach/island theme," Cultural Union Vice President Pascale Boonstra said.

Student Council will host a spirit week raffle competition coming up where students can enter to win gift cards.

Teachers have U-High buttons to hand out to students who dress up, and during lunch tomorrow the students who win the most of buttons will win a \$50 gift card.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SOPHIE HINERFELD

ONESIES, SWEATPANTS, GETTING COMFY. Senior Shoshana Holt-Auslander wears her cheetah print onesie in math class Oct. 10, the first day of Spirit Week.

Freshmen elect class officers

BY SAMIRA GLAESER-KHAN
MIDWAY REPORTER

After a week of posters and sweets the freshmen selected their class officers on Oct. 6. Jeremy Ng was elected president.

Nolan Issa was elected vice president, and Kepler Boonstra and Yuyu Katahira will be Cultural Union representatives.

Eleven candidates gave speeches in Café Lab during lunch on Oct. 5 and addressed issues such as social events, homework, and unifying the class.

Many candidates said in their speeches that they aimed to unify the class by building a sense of community. According to Dean of Students Ana Campos, this was an especially prominent topic in the speeches this year because 55 freshmen, including Jeremy, joined the Lab community this year compared to the average 25-30.

Another issue candidates addressed in speeches was ventilation in sports facilities such as Sunny Gym and the Fitness Center. In his speech, Jeremy asked, "Who isn't dying from the heat during P.E.? I know I am."

Many candidates also promised to try and reduce homework load.



Jeremy Ng

INSIDE

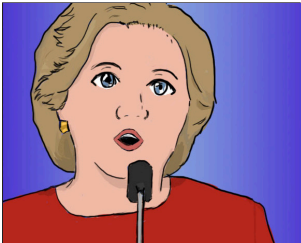
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Cemitas Puebla: A new Mexican restaurant with food such as tacos, cemita sandwiches and quesadillas has opened on 57th Street.



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Maroons are with her: Nearly 9 in 10 students picked Hillary Clinton in the Midway's mock election. U. of C. scholars explain why this election is different.



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More than a name: Latin School hockey teams have players from high schools around the city, including six from Lab.



Seniors of color unsure affirmative action will help them

BY MARISSA MARTINEZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In June, the Supreme Court upheld the rights of universities to use affirmative action when evaluating college applications. As seniors prepare their applications this month, some have to consider how their race affects their chances.

Affirmative action refers to the system of college admissions policies that offer equal access to education for those who have been historically disadvantaged in the United States, specifically women and racial minorities. In June, the Supreme Court heard the case *Fischer v. University of Texas*, in which a white woman claimed she was not accepted to the college because of her race. They upheld the ruling that admissions officials can consider race as a factor in accepting students because of the Equal Protection Clause in the 14th Amendment. This issue was last contested in the 2003 *Grutter v. Bollinger* case.

Jennifer Jiao, an Asian U-High senior, has mixed feelings on the affirmative action system. She said she is frustrated that she may be compared only against other Asian-identifying students.

“I think it’s really interesting how Asian-Americans have become this model minority in which you are so smart that you can only compete against each other,” Jennifer said. “That obviously is just untrue. There are Asian-Americans that are obviously disadvantaged when they’re applying to college.”

Jennifer said she feels that the issue goes back to colorblind admissions, which can interfere with how the system affects other students of color.

“I’m not sure how you balance the fact that there are other people of color that are hugely, structurally disadvantaged, and therefore need that affirmative action to make it fair,” Jennifer said. “I’m disadvantaged in a different way. My parents don’t understand the college system, [but] I’m not disadvantaged in the way other communities are.”

Daniela Garcia, a Latina senior, appreciates how affirmative action shows consideration for diversity on campus, but believes a student’s grades, not their race, should earn them a spot in school. Instead, she says aid should come from the state governments, not universities.

“I have the grades and capacity. They’re not just going to accept any black kid, they’re going to accept ones that are qualified.”

— Nigel Telman, senior

“We need more teachers who are willing to help out the community, more people of color graduating so that they can help out the community and ultimately advocate for these underrepresented people,” Daniela said. “Ultimately, education is extremely important, and more people of color should attend schools that will care for them and will embrace their uniqueness rather than accepting them based on color, and grouping them by their race.”

Nigel Telman, a black senior, believes the policies help to level the playing field. The system is comparable to reparations, or the compensation for descendants of enslaved Africans, he said.

“Of course it doesn’t nearly make up for the years of abuse and torment that African-Americans suffered,” Nigel said, “but it’s almost a small form of payback because it’s

almost overdue.”

Even though he said he feels affirmative action is necessary for students with a similar racial background, Nigel said he struggles with the idea of knowing the system may be helping him behind the scenes.

“I go back and forth between being scared that colleges will only accept me because I’m African-American, and chastising myself for thinking that because it’s on me whether or not they accept me,” Nigel said. “I have the grades and capacity. They’re not just going to accept any black kid, they’re going to accept ones that are qualified.”

“Personally, I don’t feel like I deserve or need affirmative action,” Nigel continued, “but you have to look at the historical significance, the historical impact of white supremacy on the African-American community, and after viewing that, you really see the importance.”

According to college counselor Melissa Warehall, colleges aren’t specifically looking to give advantages to underserved students of color anymore.

“Their priority is having diverse perspectives on their campuses,” Ms. Warehall said. “No college would want to bring in a fresh-

man class that consists of entirely one race, one ethnicity, one way of thinking, because they’re looking for students who would add to the conversations on campus from different perspectives.”

When Ms. Warehall worked as director of admissions for DePaul University’s theater conservatory, she had to think of how to build a diverse set of 40 acting majors every year, using

race to try to bring a unique set of viewpoints.

“I tried to entice as many people from diverse backgrounds as possible to apply,” Ms. Warehall said. “Once I had that diverse pool of applicants, I could then pull from that to bring in a diverse class, and I’m very proud of that. It was a conscious effort I made to diversify the school. The way I did it was not giving favoritism to anybody who came from a diverse background, it was getting enough diverse people in the pool such that they had a chance to be chosen.”



Melissa Warehall

CLUB NEWS

Debate begins year with successful tournament

After successes at the two opening tournaments of the year, debate team members are preparing for a tournament in the Bronx, New York this weekend and for competitions in Iowa and the University of Michigan later this month.

At the Niles Township Invitational Sept. 9-11, three of the team’s pairs competed. The pairs of junior Dheven Unni and sophomore Elena Liao as well as seniors Jackie Walker and Jennifer Jiao, placed in the top 16. The third pair, juniors Michael Hellie and Alex Blocker, placed in the top eight.

At the Mid-America Cup Sept. 23-26, sophomores Roshni Padhi and Elena Liao placed in the top 32, and Michael and Alex placed in the top eight again.

According to Jackie, co-captain, the Bronx tournament judges tend to be familiar with U-High debaters’ arguments and support their argument style, which is geared toward philosophy.

Because of the judges’ style preference, Jackie considers this tournament to be one in which the team has a good chance at placing well.



Jackie Walker



Gabby Conforti

Conforti, a senior.

“We found that a lot of them were naturally quite good, and they had a lot of presence in the room or they were good at speaking and that’s something that’s always important to us, to improve on natural and inherent talents,” Gabby said. “We were very impressed by that but also for the kids who put in a ton of work for the two weeks we had before LabMUNC. We saw a lot of improvements and hard work means a lot when it comes to MUN, so we were excited by that and we hope that translates well into the competitive conferences later this year.”

Participation in PMUNC Nov. 17-20 is restricted to sophomores, juniors and seniors, although freshmen do have the option to participate in VUMUN Nov. 4-6.

In addition to the upcoming conferences, LabMUN’s faculty advisers changed from head adviser Charles Disantis and assistant adviser Lesley Scott to Kevin Van Eron and Gail Poole respectively.

— EMMA TRONE

Feminist Club opens discussion safe space

The Feminist Club members have plans to turn club meetings into a discussion space to consider feminist issues, fundraise and educate the U-High community about how to stay safe. The club leaders also hope to increase their club size in order to raise awareness of how feminism plays a role in politics and in society.

According to Asha Futterman, one of three seniors running the



PHOTO BY JANIE INGRASSIA

BRIDGING THE SPECTRUM. Mollie Stone, a 1997 alumna who founded Spectrum as a student, returned to U-High Oct. 7 to share her experiences with Spectrum members. “As hard as these issues are, in the long run — this is something I wish someone had reminded me of in high school,” Ms. Stone said. “This is about love. It’s about who you fall in love with, about who makes you feel good.”

club, the most important change in Feminist Club from previous years is the development of an environment in which discussing heavy topics feels comfortable. Topics range from the extent to which Title IX protects students to mental health.

Senior Pria Parsad, another feminist club leader, deliberated on the intersection between feminism and politics, a concept currently being discussed in Feminist Club due to the upcoming presidential elections.

— PRIYANKA SHRIJAY

Green Team recycles tennis balls for classes

Once tennis balls wear out on the court, they can have a second life in the classroom. Green Team is currently working to make this possible. They are also working on a project to encourage students to recycle more.

President Victoria Gin said the group is handing out old tennis balls from U-High’s team to lower school and middle school classes. Green Team has already distribut-

ed about 100 balls for teachers to apply to the feet of chairs and for art projects.

Club members plan to continue to supply the classrooms with tennis balls throughout the year.

Green Team will also hang signs informing students of what can be recycled and what can be thrown away above trash cans and recycling bins.

— SAMIRA GLAESER -KHAN

Lit mag editors promise edition within 2 months

Editors of the Renaissance arts and literature magazine promise the 2015-16 edition will be printed and mailed to U-High students within the next two months, and that this year the magazine will be published on time.

Last year’s edition of the Renaissance magazine was not distributed among U-High students due to disorganization and overall confusion, according to members of the editing board.

“Typically the magazines are mailed to all the U-Highers, but last year it didn’t happen,” Liza Edwards-Levin, the current editor-in-chief of the literary board, said.

Sam Aronson, who graduated in 2016, was the editor-in-chief of the art board last year.

According to Sam, the magazine was not published because the editors did not have time to send the manuscript to the printer while school was still in session.

To avoid disorganization this year, Liza said she plans to facilitate more meetings between the literary and art boards this year in order to decrease confusion and help ensure future Renaissance magazines are published on time.

Rachel Schonbaum, co-editor-in-chief of the art board, said they have created a plan for how the magazine will be formatted.

“By the beginning of spring quarter we’re gonna have almost everything done,” Rachel said.

Last year’s seniors comprised most of the editing boards, which could have been a cause of the disorganization, according to Rachel.

“The problem was, since all of the editors were seniors, they had a very strong case of senioritis. And not to put them down in any way, they weren’t the most organized people,” Rachel said.

— JACOB POSNER

NEWS IN BRIEF

Search for new director starts on a high note

A new director for the Laboratory Schools is scheduled to be appointed by February or March of 2017 under the advice of the Lab Director Search Advisory Committee and the search firm Issacson Miller.

The Search Advisory Committee launched in early September. Throughout that month, a position profile benefitted by two community meetings was developed for use by Isaacson Miller to find and engage potential candidates and build a pool of applicants throughout October and November.

The search firm has previously been utilized by Lab in three administrative searches from 1994-1998. The Search Advisory Committee was selected over the summer based on community suggestions and is comprised of a combination of Lab parents, administrators and a teacher. The committee's work is coordinated by University of Chicago Executive Vice President David Fithian in collaboration with Laboratory Schools Board of Directors Chair David Kistenbroker.

According to Mr. Fithian, the new director will ideally have a strong and varied set of skills in the educational and administrative field.

"We're looking for someone who clearly has a deep educational background, someone who has demonstrated an ability to lead in complex organizations, someone who ideally is charismatic and easily interacts with all the constituents at Lab — the faculty, parents, staff, students," Mr. Fithian said. "And I think someone who has experience with developing strategic plans and leveraging available assets, by which I mean taking advantage of being part of a university and making programmatic connections the University."

The committee will conduct interviews and lead campus visits with the short-listed candidates, and will share its advice with the Lab Board of Directors. The Board will ultimately make the formal recommendation of top candidates to University of Chicago President Robert J. Zimmer, who will make the final appointment. The new director will assume the position on July 1.

In addition to community meetings held in September, the search advisory committee is accepting emails from members of the community to share viewpoints at search-labdir@uchicago.edu.

— EMMA TRONE

Cafe Lab program allows students to pay online

Grab, go and pay with the new payment system the cafeteria has introduced called Guest Express. With this new system, students can now pay with their student IDs. Students and faculty can receive 10 percent off of their purchases.

Students who are interested can go to www.freedompay.com, and select "University of Chicago Laboratory Schools" from the drop-down menu to set up an account and load their card with funds tied to a bank account. Parents will put money on their child's account, and the student will scan their ID on the card reader, deducting money from their account.

Also available, Guest Express Platinum allows unlimited funding for students using their debit or credit cards for \$2.50 a month.

Sophomore Izzy Knowles said, "The Guest Express is very convenient. I really like it and use it every day. My parents signed me up ear-

ly this year and it's a very fast way to pay for food. I like it a lot more than just using cash."

— KATERINA LOPEZ

New, open space brings life into old library

An old library is coming back to life with the opening of the Pritzker Traubert Family Library. Before it was U-High's library and before it was offices, Judd C204 was home to the education school's library in the 1980s. The original bookshelves line the wall, an aspect that means a lot to librarians Susan Augustine and Shirley Volk.

"It does feel very much like a library with the big windows and the wooden bookshelves," Ms. Augustine said. "It is a nice mixture of old fashion features and contemporary pieces."



Susan Augustine



Shirley Volk

Ms. Volk expressed the same fascinations with the old-fashioned feel of the library.

"Its really nice that we get to use the old bookshelves," Ms. Volk said. "[The library] fits really well into campus with the old mixed with the new. I'm really enjoying the new space."

The Pritzker Traubert family has strong connections to U-High due to sending their children, Donald Traubert, who graduated in 2009, and Rose Traubert graduated in 2011 to the school. Penny Traubert also served on the board of the school, and is currently the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

— NATALIE GLICK

Activist Jeff Chang visits, presents new book

America is at its most diverse point in history, but the nation is becoming steadily resegregated, according to Jeff Chang, an author and activist who spoke at University Church Oct. 10.

Mr. Chang wrote "We Gon' Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation," a book about the recent protests surrounding race in the United States as well as multiculturalism and his ideas surrounding "Asian Americanness."

U-High Social Justice Week Co-Chairs Liza Edwards-Levin and Elizabeth Van Ha also spoke, and Alex Du Buclet performed her song "Waiting" as a response to Black Lives Matter.

Other performers included rapper Aquil Charlton, or AQ, who used a synthesizer with his rap.

"Don't walk around passionless," AQ rapped.

In their speech, Liza and Elizabeth said, "This year, Social Justice Week's theme is Crossroads. As we brainstorm new ways to engage the U-High community around intersectionality, we are inspired by Jeff Chang's latest work linking Black Lives Matter, segregated housing, Ferguson and #OscarsSoWhite."

Mr. Chang has written for The New York Times and co-founded Colorlines, a magazine about race and culture. He is executive director for Stanford University's Institute for Diversity in the Arts.

"The fight for racial equality has to be understood also as the fight for cultural equality," Mr. Chang said.

— TALIA GOERGE-KARRON

INCENTIVES TO JOIN



MIDWAY PHOTO BY BAILEY GARB

JOIN EVERY CLUB. Seniors Will Zich and Eliana Waxman advertise Arts Fest at Club Shopping during assembly period on Sept. 15. Over 50 clubs were represented including new additions Ethics Bowl, Think Tank and Paratus.

Language exchanges immerse students in culture, adventure

Students fulfill interests while in foreign countries

BY JACOB POSNER
MIDWAY REPORTER

With motivations ranging from an intense interest in different cultures and languages to simple recommendations from friends, middle and high school students traveled to Spain, France, China and Germany this summer.

The two-week trip to Spain began in Gijón then moved to Madrid. While students were based in Gijón, they visited the Covadonga lakes just outside the city and ruins from the Roman Empire, among other places. However, there were few planned trips. One spontaneous day trip was a visit to a castle belonging to the royal family.

Sophomore Stephanie Miller's original reason to go was an interest in international travel. According to Stephanie, the Spanish exchange was an immersive experience.

"We were living with locals," she said. "They truly kept to their daily routines, instead of changing and just taking us on a tour."

Junior David Anderson had a

similarly engaging experience while spending time in China because of the intense cultural immersion.

"It's hard to switch over," David said. "America and China are very, very different places. I think the biggest difference was the food — a lot of people had upset stomachs."

David had some advice for Lab students planning to go on the trip. He recommended that students go

to China as rising freshmen. He felt that the experience would have been more meaningful and informative if he had done it at a younger age.

The trip students took to China this summer was the second half of the exchange, as the students from China had already visited last January. The Americans spent a total of three weeks in China, the first two weeks staying with their host families in Beijing and the

last week travelling through China without their exchange partners. The group went inland to Xi'an and took a train to Nanjing. Afterward, they travelled to Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai.

Lab students spent three weeks in Germany with their host families, going to school every day with their exchange partners at Lab's partner school and going on day trips within the state of Baden-

"We were living with locals," she said. "They truly kept to their daily routines, instead of changing and just taking us on a tour."

— Stephanie Miller, freshman

Württemberg. Some of the day trips included a visit to the Daimler Museum in Stuttgart, where the Americans stayed. During the weekend, the Americans and their host families would go on trips to cities in the surrounding area. In addition, the entire group spent a weekend touring Bonn and the Rhine.

Out of all the sites junior Sam Rezaei visited, he said one church stood out because of its authentic feel. Gothic churches such as those do not exist in the United States. The experience established that fact that he was in a vastly different culture, he said.

Students who travelled to France spent 16 days there — six days in Paris without their French counterparts and 10 days with their host families in Tours. In Paris, the group visited sites including the Eiffel Tower and Les Catacombes. While the American students stayed with their hosts in Tours, they visited schools, sampled French cuisine and sometimes toured the city.

At the beginning of the trip, Kepler Boonstra, then a rising freshman, was baffled by the French he heard.

"Their accents were different than the French teachers at Lab," Kepler said. By the end, however, he said, "I felt more confident in my French, and it felt more natural to speak."



Stephanie Miller



Sam Rezaei



David Anderson



Kepler Boonstra

Actors take Shakespeare on a California adventure

Fall production takes audience on fun, wild ride to the 1930s

BY PRIYANKA SHRIJAY
MIDWAY REPORTER

Sunshine. Silver screens. And, Shakespeare?

On Nov. 3, 4 and 5, the U-High theater will bring Shakespearean characters to 1934 California in their production of “Shakespeare in Hollywood.” The show will take its audience through Puck and Oberon’s journey as they leave their world and appear on the film set of the play that is based on their story – “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Tickets will be sold for \$10.

Junior Nicole Horio plays the fairy Puck, and junior Ayaan Asthana plays Oberon, the fairy king. As the two attempt to adjust to their new environment, all sorts of complications ensue.

“Everything gets all twisted up,” theater teacher Liucija Ambrosini explained excitedly, “and it turns into this very fun and wild play.”

When considering which show to direct this fall, Mrs. Ambrosini said she searched for productions that exhibited whimsical and wild elements. She said she decided on “Shakespeare in Hollywood” because it gives actors the chance to play classic and well-known characters.

Mrs. Ambrosini also indicated that the production stood out to her because it has “a lot of good, farce comedy.” She explained that the witty interactions between characters in part characterizes the show’s hilarity.

Cast List	
Ayaan Asthana	..... Oberon
Nicole Horio	..... Puck (Understudy: Cecile Ngo)
Nicholas Merchant	..... Jack Warner
Derek De Jong	..... Max Reinhardt
Danny Rubin	..... Will Hays
J. Henrik Nielsen	..... Daryl
Dania Baig	..... Olivia Darnell (Understudy: Cecile Ngo)
Katya Edwards	..... Lydia Lansing (Understudy: Nicole Horio)
Alex Billingsley	..... Louella Parsons (Understudy: Riley Kay)
Lee Friedman	..... Jimmy Carney
Emmet Bacon	..... Joe E. Brown
Cecile Ngo	..... Film Actresses/Characters
Al Dines	..... Film Actresses/Characters
Riley Kay	..... Costumers/Characters
Joasa Rose	..... Costumers/Characters
Lauren Williams	..... Costumers/ Characters

Sophomore Derek de Jong plays Austrian Max Reinhardt, who is directing the film version of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” in this show. Derek described the comedy as slapstick. “There are a bunch of chases and fights,” he explained about the nature of the show’s humor.

Derek discovered that finding a connection between his character and himself eases his path to playing his character naturally. He is able to find common ground with Max Reinhardt when he draws from his experiences of helping sophomore Nicholas Merchant, who plays Jack Warner, with the direction of their independent filming projects. Derek has also been working on performing with an Austrian accent. He noted that the Austrian accent is similar to the German accent – one he is quite familiar with.

“He’s causing all these problems which are the underlying drive of the story. [Finding Puck] is really just exploring the mischievous side of him”

— Nicole Horio

“Fifty percent of my family is German,” Derek said. “My grandfather was a German professor and lived in Germany for a large portion of his life. On my mom’s side a ton of people are German as well. So is my best friend. I guess I just picked [the accent] up from a bunch of people who speak German.”

Nicole found that she does not have a personal connection to Puck. Instead, she looks to analyzing her character’s purpose and desires in order to bridge the gap between Puck and herself.

“He’s causing all these problems which are the underlying drive of the story. [Finding Puck] is really just exploring the mischievous side of him,” she said. Nicole also noted that observing how energetic people move has helped her embody Puck’s playful aura.

“[Mrs. Ambrosini] has also been working with me on lowering my voice,” Nicole said with regard to the challenge of playing a male character.

While the actors are preparing their roles, the crew is hard at work pulling together the production aspects of the show, including set construction, costumes, lights, sound, publicity and ticket sales. Also helping with the production are theater managers who assist the directors and a house manager who supervises ushers on performance nights and manages the house during the show.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY SOPHIE HINERFELD

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Junior Ayaan Asthana practices for his role as Oberon. The fall production will be “Shakespeare in Hollywood,” which is based on the Shakespeare’s “A Midsummers Night’s Dream.” Tickets will be sold for \$10 and the production will take place in the Sherry Lansing Theater on Nov. 3,4 and 5.

Junior Sophie Hinerfeld explained her job as a theater manager is to take care of every branch of the theater in order to take as much weight off of the directors as possible.

“As the first show begins,” Sophie said, “Mrs. Ambrosini steps back and we as theater managers,

assistant directors, stage managers and house manager take over the show.” The show then becomes an entity completely worked by students, both on stage and off.

Mrs. Ambrosini hopes for the production to be “wild and wonderful and give a flavor of the time period.”

Authentic Mexican sandwiches arrive on 57th Street

BY MICHAEL RUBIN
MIDWAY REPORTER

With bright smiles from cashiers and the aroma of freshly baked bread, Cemitas Puebla has begun to thrive as the most recent addition to Hyde Park’s growing food scene.

Cemitas Puebla is named for and known for their various types of cemitas, a sandwich that originates from Puebla City, Mexico. In addition to serving cemitas, the restaurant also offers various tacos, salads and quesadillas with prices ranging from \$1.95 to \$11.50.

Founded by father-son duo Antonio and Tony Anteliz, Cemitas Puebla’s first location opened in Humboldt Park in 2002. Due to the great success of the restaurant, Cemitas Puebla closed the original spot and opened locations in Fulton Market and Logan Square, spreading the authentic Mexican taste across Chicago.

Cemitas Puebla opened on 57th Street in Hyde Park in early September, introducing new mini ce-

“I try to spend as much time as possible in stores. Meeting people, meeting our customers, and making sure that our team is doing the best we can to make our customers happy is so important to me

— Seth Hanau, Co-Owner of Cemitas Puebla



MIDWAY PHOTO BY LILLIAN NEMETH

GET HUNGRY. Perfect for both veggie-lovers and carnivores, cemitas brings satisfaction to all who eat one. Filled with fresh foods, cooked daily the new Hyde Park restaurant is thriving with new buisness. During lunch and dinner times there is always a line out the door, with people eargerly waiting to get a taste of the new restaurant. This is the fourth Cemitas Puebla location in Chicago.

mitas, tacos and breakfast items to the menu.

According to current co-owner Seth Hanau, a successful restaurant is characterized by more than just great food. Good service is just as crucial for making a restaurant thrive.

“I try to spend as much time as possible in stores,” Mr. Hanau said. “Meeting people, meeting our customers, and making sure that our team is doing the best we

can to make our customers happy is so important to me.”

Mr. Hanau is excited about the Hyde Park location and is confident that Cemitas Puebla will be a great fit for the University of Chicago campus.

“I’m really impressed by the diversity, by the neighborhood feel, and just how involved the community seems to be,” Mr. Hanau said. “When I first came in here, people made it seem like that might be a

negative, that the community talks to each other so much, so if we don’t do a good job, the word gets around really quickly. But I didn’t see it as a negative, I saw it as an opportunity. I saw it as our style of service and our level of hospitality.”

After only a few weeks, it is apparent that Cemitas Puebla is a hit within the Hyde Park community. The response has been pleasantly and unexpectedly overwhelming

Cemitas Puebla	
1321 E. 57th St.	
Some menu items:	
Cemitas (al pastor, carnitas, carne asada, veggie, etc.)	..... \$7.95-\$11.50
Tacos	..... \$ 2.95-\$3.95
Quesadilla	..... \$2.95
Salads	..... \$5.95
Chips & guacamole	.....\$3.95, \$6.95

for the owners, but Mr. Hanau is unworried about the continuation of that momentum.

“We’ve been busier than we expected. And, you know, I think we’ve handled it rather well. We have a lot to do to get better, but really it’s a feeling-out process for both us and the neighborhood,” Mr. Hanau said. “We need to understand the neighborhood and be able to get honest, candid feedback from the Hyde Park community so that we can do our best to change things that people would like to be changed.”

With a line piling into the restaurant, the experience is worth the wait. Each bite into the perfect sesame seed roll complemented by smooth avocado, house-made chipotle sauce, and stringy Oaxacan cheese is a reminder of the quality care and hospitality put into the creation of each authentic sandwich.

Cemitas Puebla has exceeded the owners’ expectations and proved successful in their goal to create a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere within the walls of their 57th Street location, which will undoubtedly continue to thrive.

Augmented reality takes players to new world

‘Pokémon Go’ rose to the top of the app store while allowing for nostalgia

BY SONNY LEE
FEATURES AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR

With a Level of 22 and his highest Pokémon being a 1570 CP Vaporeon, senior Nicholas Slimmon scours all of the nooks and crannies in Chicago flicking his thumb at Pokémon on his iPhone in hopes of catching them all. Nick was one of an estimated 10 million people to download “Pokémon Go” within the first week of its release on July 6. And the numbers kept growing.

The general concept of “Pokémon Go” is to capture wild fictional species of Pokémon using “poke balls” and training them to battle and defeat other Pokémon in order to move up in levels. Looking down at their phones, users see themselves as an avatar standing on a map that is based on real-world roads and locations around the user. On the map, users can walk to gyms to battle Pokémon or find Pokémon to capture.

Nick explained that he never found the appeal of Pokémon when he was younger, but when the game was released in July his friends and most of the people around him influenced him and got him to join the movement.

“Honestly, I was not expecting it to be this fun,” Nick said. “I thought that I would play it for a little bit, but then probably drop



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

GOTTA CATCH ‘EM ALL. One of many students who play “Pokémon Go,” sophomore Shiva Menta attempts to catch a Venonat on the Midway, readying himself to flick a Pokéball at the unsuspecting creature. When the game debuted in July, it attracted 15 million players worldwide, but as the game got older the number of players rapidly decreased. The future of games like “Pokémon Go” is unclear, but the hope of the creators is that games like “Pokémon Go” will continue to be popular and played.

it after awhile because I was never interested in Pokémon in the first place.”

But for players who enjoyed “Pokémon” when they were younger, there are different reasons for the excitement.

“I started playing ‘Pokémon Go’ because of childhood nostalgia for the cards, games and TV shows,”

sophomore Jacob Beiser said.

Jacob explained that he expected the game to have amazing graphics, to make him run around exploring the city and catching Pokémon all while having an adventure.

“It sort of lived up to my expectations,” Jacob said. “The game was very fun and addicting for a

week, but then I got really bored because I got too good and then I stopped playing.”

According to App market analyst Apptopia, the number of active monthly users dropped from 50.2 million on Aug. 12, to 32.4 million on Sept. 10 — a steep 65 percent drop in less than a month.

But with the possibility of more

“Honestly, I was not expecting it to be this fun. I thought that I would play it for a little bit, but then probably drop it after awhile because I was never interested in Pokémon in the first place.”

— Nick Slimmon, senior

reality augmenting games like “Pokémon Go,” the debate over whether or not the technology disrupts and prevents users from truly enjoying nature is an ongoing.

“The game advertises itself as a way to get out and experience the world around you while also catching Pokémon,” Nick explained. “While I think it does get you out and gets you exercising, not everyone totally appreciates that. So some people will go out and just be on their phones the entire time, to the point where, one, it’s almost dangerous because you can get hit by a car, and two, it’s just kind of sad, because you just focus on your phone the whole time. So although I think it’s a good way to get people out, I wouldn’t say it’s as immersive in the outdoors as it advertises itself to be.”

It’s a conflicting and complicated topic, but an extremely important one to address.

Technology has progressed to the point where the line between reality and gaming has become fuzzy. But that’s not always a bad thing. Similar technology found in Pokémon Go can enhance how cellphone users interact with the world, layering data from a virtual world onto the physical world.

‘Atlanta’ brings viewers a new perspective on life

Show highlights challenges that many blacks face

BY MICHAEL RUBIN
MIDWAY REPORTER

Drugs. Music. Violence. Real life becomes fiction for actor and musician Donald Glover, also known by his alias Childish Gambino, as he becomes a rap manager in urban Atlanta in FX comedy-drama television series, “Atlanta.”

Glover portrays Earn Marks, a couch-surfing college drop-out, who returns to his hometown of Atlanta to redeem himself in the eyes of his parents and the mother of his child.

Glover created and stars in FX Network’s newest addition — and it’s a hit. Based on the first five episodes, it was obvious that Glover’s brand of humor and writing would be the cornerstone of this show, a refreshing continuation of Glover’s genius in writing after taking a break from the television scene to pursue his rap career.

The depth of each character within the show, primarily Earn and his cousin Alfred (Brian Tyree Henry), who is an up-and-coming rapper by the stage name of “Paper Boi,” allow the viewer to invest in the life of each character within the fast-paced plot of the show.

With no life prospects, and a source of income below minimum wage, Earn decides to improve his life by becoming Alfred’s manager.

The decision lands Earn and Alfred in jail, after a shooting incident in the parking lot of an Atlanta gas station, thus introducing the dry and offbeat feel of life in “Atlanta.”

Initially a writer for NBC’s “30 Rock” and later a main character



FX STUDIOS, USED WITH PERMISSION

KEEP GOING. Main characters Earn Marks (Donald Glover), Alfred “Paper Boi” Miles (Brian Tyree Henry), and Darius (Keith Stanfield) jaywalk across a street in a residential Atlanta neighborhood. This disregard for the common law reflects the generally distaste the characters have for authority and the government throughout the show.

in NBC’s “Community,” Glover has maintained his quirky sense of humor throughout his acting and writing career. Despite this continuation of this writing style, the show has a completely different feel than any other featuring Glover.

In three short years, Glover has transformed his acting niche, from playing a nerdy college student in “Community,” to playing a troubled rap manager in “Atlanta,”

showing his impressive range and adaptability as an actor.

With a primarily African-American cast and completely black writing staff, “Atlanta’s” different feel stems from the portrayal of various issues of identity and cultural appropriation, using television and the existentialist, slightly pessimistic tone of the show as a way to make a statement about micro-aggressions and discrimination.

Ordinary black stars are given a chance to shine with three new TV series released this season

Three new TV shows, all starring African-American leads, took America by storm this month. The following are highly-rated, awe-inspiring, supernatural, realistic, gritty, comedic and so much more. They bring to light important issues that plague America today, like the reality of racism, classism and more. At the same time, they bring these heavy issues to light through the lens of ordinary people, such as “Insecure” protagonist Issa Dee. These TV shows will keep the audience guessing, laughing uncontrollably or just in awe of the performances.

“LUKE CAGE”

Premiered Sept. 28 on Netflix

Starring a majority African-American cast, eponymously titled TV show “Luke Cage” was based on Marvel Comic Luke Cage by Archie Goodwin. The show is set in Harlem. It’s gritty, it’s violent. It’s not about a superhero who wears tights and a cape. Luke Cage, played by Mike Colter is just another guy, wanting nothing more than to lead a quiet life. His powers of super strength and unbreakable skin were thrust upon him without his knowledge or choice, but nonetheless, he takes advantage of them to deal with corrupt politicians and criminal masterminds left and right.

“We kind of realized it was all about tone,” Glover said about “Atlanta” in an interview with NPR. “Stereotypes exist, but the way they exist is not how they are to most people. They’re usually like very cartoonish.”

“TIMELESS”

Premiered Oct. 3 on NBC

Malcolm Barrett plays engineer Rufus Carlin, a part of a trio charged with apprehending time-traveling criminal Garcia Flynn. An unlikely group — a history professor, soldier and engineer — must go back in time to stop Flynn from destroying present-day America by changing the past.

The three must avoid the pitfalls of time travel and avoid misdirecting the course of history, while chasing a slippery Flynn through time.

“INSECURE”

Premiered Oct. 9 (online advance premiere was Sept. 23)

Issa Rae, creator of the YouTube series “Awkward Black Girl,” makes the jump to HBO as she shares the experiences of African-American women in present-day L.A.

Co-written with Larry Wilmore, former host of “The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore,” the show follows two friends as they navigate “the tricky professional and personal” aspects of life, according to the HBO website. The series offers a unique and comedic perspective from the main character, Issa Dee, the only African-American working at an all-white non-profit for at risk students.

— JACOB POSNER

“Atlanta’s” unique tone and feel contribute to the show’s success, portraying a quality of life that is not seen often in television. The show’s controversial nature also makes the show what it is, a home run.

Election 2016

An election like no other in history

Scholars note Trump's atypical campaign, Clinton's experience

BY MARISSA MARTINEZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With the nomination of businessman Donald Trump and with Hillary Clinton as the first female nominee of a major party, the 2016 election is unlike any most Americans have seen in their lifetime.

This is an unusual election to start with for those experiencing their first presidential election as high school students.

Trump and Clinton

Steve Edwards, executive director of the University of Chicago's Institute of Politics, said the fundamental difference between this election and past cycles is that it is a contested election with no incumbent, which allows candidates like Donald Trump can be nominated. This leads to a campaign that runs against "every piece of conventional wisdom," Mr. Edwards said.

Any the unconventional aspects of Trump's campaign — his relatively lean campaign staff, minimal advertising or policies that diverge from the Republican platform — alone might have denied a candidate the nomination in the past, Mr. Edwards said.

"In every moment, Trump has not only overcome those challenges, but in many cases has been strengthened by them," Mr. Edwards said. "That is something that is unforeseen in recent American politics. It's been unforeseen in my lifetime, that we have someone from outside the system and has bucked those traditional tactics and strategies and landed a major party nomination. It's nothing short of astonishing what he's been able to accomplish."

Kate Grossman, director of the IOP fellows program, was not surprised that Trump was nominated. She said, according to a theory proposed by IOP Director David Axelrod, every president is a direct response to the former one.

"For example, Barack Obama is intellectual, cerebral, thoughtful, reasonable," Ms. Grossman said. "Then you swing in the opposite direction and what do we get? We get Donald Trump, someone who is really the opposite of all of those things. There's a lot of frustration out in the public about canned, packaged insider politicians, and Donald Trump presents himself as the antithesis of all that."

On the other side, Clinton has raised questions on what it means to be "presidential" by becoming her party's first female nominee, Mr. Edwards said. He said he believes having a woman president would send a signal to American citizens and the rest of the world.

The role of gender has increased with the release last week of a 2005 video in which Trump makes lewd statements about women. Should Clinton win the presidency, her victory would not only break the glass ceiling, but serve as a "sharp rebuke" to Trump's behavior, Mr. Edwards said.

However, Clinton's experience works against her because of rising

"It's been unforeseen in my lifetime, that we have someone from outside the system and has bucked those traditional tactics and strategies and landed a major party nomination. It's nothing short of astonishing what he's been able to accomplish."

— Steve Edwards, exec. director
Institute of Politics

anti-establishment sentiments. Since Clinton is so well-known, American citizens have already made up their minds about her, Ms. Grossman said.

"She's got some battle scars," Ms. Grossman said. "Because she's been the subject of a lot of attacks over the years, she's very cautious and very protective of herself and people close to her, and therefore she comes off as very secretive and calculating. It's a defensive posture. That's how the public sees her, and that's very difficult to change."

Despite the public animosity toward Clinton, Mr. Edwards said her experience would help her if elected president.

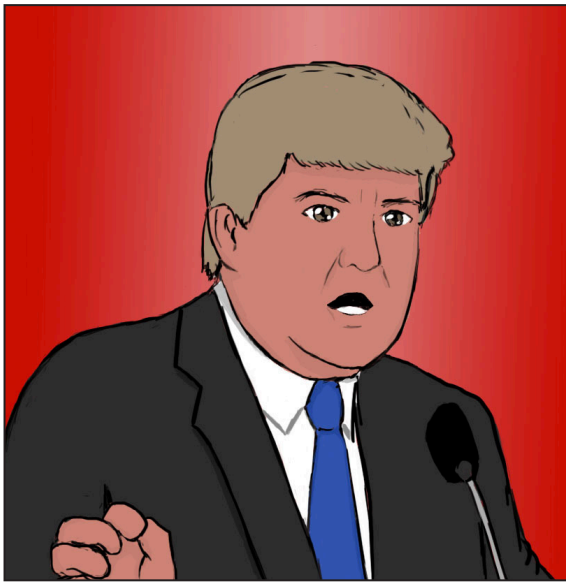
"What we know from Hillary Clinton as a senator and secretary of state is that she is able to forge relationships with a wide range of stakeholders," Mr. Edwards said. "When she was in the Senate in particular, she worked in a bipartisan fashion with members of her own caucus and Republicans. She has strong relationships on the world stage from 30 years in public life and political service."

"It will be much more difficult for Donald Trump to establish those kinds of relationships," Mr. Edwards continued, "simply because he will be a new figure in international diplomatic circles and on Capitol Hill, and he's struggled to get much support, even from members of his own caucus. When it comes to relationship building, Hillary Clinton has more things in her background that suggest an easier learning curve."

Third-party candidates

People who are disenchanted with either major party nominee may turn to third-party candidates such as Libertarian Gary Johnson or Green Jill Stein as a solution. They gained popularity this year because of the "high negatives" for both Clinton and Trump, Mr. Edwards said. From Republicans upset with Trump's policies to unhappy Bernie Sanders supporters, Stein and Johnson offer a respite from the bipartisan system. However, they face structural disadvantages because Republicans and Democrats want to "preserve their monopoly."

"Election laws make it very very difficult for parties to even get on the ballot," Mr. Edwards said. He also said that the 15 percent threshold to participate in debates limits the ability of these candi-



MIDWAY PHOTO BY NEENA DHANOA

HILLARY CLINTON AND DONALD TRUMP ON THE ISSUES

Economy

Clinton supports raising the minimum wage, increasing taxes on the wealthiest Americans from the current 39.5 percent to 65 percent and taxing corporate profits stashed overseas. Clinton's policy proposals include increased spending in job training, infrastructure, education and clean energy as well as efforts to increase women's participation in the workforce. She is against the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

Trump is looking to cut taxes for the highest earners and corporations by 6.6 percent and supports reduction of regulations. He is against raising the national minimum wage. He supports reduced funding of non-defense programs excluding Social Security and Medicare. Trump emphasizes keeping jobs from leaving America by limiting free trade, supports increased tariffs on trade partners and is against NAFTA and TPP.

National Security and the War on Terror

Clinton plans to combat terrorism by strengthening diplomatic relationships with Middle Eastern countries and by providing support to Arab and Kurdish forces in Syria. She is against a significant increase in military spending and presence in Syria to fight the Islamic State. She supports domestic surveillance to identify extremists.

Trump supports significantly increasing military spending and domestic surveillance. He wants to increase the size of US ground, naval and air forces. Trump plans to make it more difficult for Muslim immigrants to enter the country through more stringent screening policies for Muslims and a temporary suspension of immigration from the Middle East. Furthermore, he is willing to use nuclear weapons to fight the Islamic State in Syria.

Immigration

Clinton strongly supports immigration rights. If elected president, she plans to form the first national office of immigration affairs, and help create a more accessible path to citizenship. Clinton defends President Obama's immigration plan to defer deportation of millions of illegal immigrants, and supplying work authorization.

Last year, Trump stated that not only did he plan on building a wall along the United States-Mexican border. Trump plans to create criminal penalties for overstayed visas. To help decrease the number of illegal immigrants Trump plans to increase the number of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers, and add up to 5,000 border patrol agents.

Women's Rights and Abortion

Clinton plans to close the wage gap by forcing companies to report their employees' salaries in order to analyze, locate and address inequalities. Clinton supports planned parenthood, and plans to help provide women access to health services, including abortion.

Gun Control

Clinton believes in tightening gun laws. She plans to set in place more complete background checks to insure guns do not fall into the wrong hands. Clinton wants to repeal the protection of lawful commerce in arms act, which protects gun manufacturers and dealers from lawsuits.

Environment

Hillary Clinton plans to address the issue of health damage from lead by establishing the Presidential Commission on Childhood Lead Exposure that will create a five year plan to eliminate the threat. She plans to invest in clean energy by providing communities with the resources they need to succeed in a transition to green energy options. Clinton also plans to make fossil fuel production safe and responsible by banning arctic drilling. She wants to work with Congress to make public health and safety laws more stringent. Furthermore, she hopes to ensure that victims of environmental crime consistently receive adequate compensations for their injuries.

dates to reach a wide audience and therefore to raise money.

Student engagement

For students who want to increase their political awareness, Ms. Grossman suggests they look at issues that will affect them once they leave high school, such as college affordability.

"We have to thank Bernie Sanders for that," Ms. Grossman said. "He really raised that issue in the primary, and Hillary Clinton has embraced it in a significant way.

2016 MOCK ELECTION: In U-High's mock election, conducted Sept. 27-28, **301 of 533** students voted. The chart represents freshman, sophomore, junior and senior votes. Of the students who voted for a presidential candidate, **87.7%** of students voted for Hillary Clinton, **4.8%** voted for Donald Trump, **4.4%** voted for Gary Johnson and **2.9%** voted for Jill Stein.

Who supports Donald Trump?

While Trump garnered 13 votes from U-Highers, no students who agreed to be contacted about their vote wished to comment on their support.



Ojus Khanolkar

Supports Jill Stein

"Considering that I'm a senior, colleges seem so much more real, so much more of a problem I guess. Jill Stein's idea of having no student debt and the idea that all students should go to college for free just seems so enticing that it would be hard not to vote for her."



Alec Kaplan

Supports Gary Johnson

"Gary Johnson and his running mate, Bill Weld, were both very successful two-term governors in heavily democratic states. They were big proponents of small governments. They promoted free trade and had a progressive platform. So they are both very qualified."



Ayaan Asthana

Supports Hillary Clinton

"Hillary has also been much more transparent and specific about what she is going to do in terms of taxation, terrorism, and healthcare. She is by no means perfect or flawless, but at the end of the day, she is someone who has spent 30 years of her life committed to serving this nation well and I believe she will continue to do so as President."



GARY JOHNSON, the Libertarian Party nominee for President of the United States, believes the most pressing issues facing the nation are wasteful spending causing an unsustainable national debt, the current federal tax code, lack of democratic representation within Congress, as well as immigration problems, according to his website. Entering the political scene in 1994 with the intention of running for Governor, Johnson's campaign slogan was "People before Politics," offering a platform emphasizing tax cuts, job creation, and state government spending growth restraint.

As a member of the Libertarian Party, promotion of civil liberties, non-interventionism, laissez-faire capitalism and the abolition of the so called welfare state are central to Johnson's platform. Throughout his two terms as Governor of New Mexico, Johnson advocated for decriminalization of marijuana use, school vouchers and the elimination of the budget deficit.



JILL STEIN, the Green Party nominee for President of the United States, advocates strongly for taking action in preventing climate change, providing support for labor while creating more job opportunities as well as ending poverty among American citizens. The Green Party is generally seen as positioning itself on the left-wing of the political spectrum and officially described itself as an "eco-socialist" party in 2016.

If elected President, Stein plans to redirect research funds from fossil fuels into renewable energy and conservation, end destructive energy extraction including fracking, tar sands, offshore drilling, and uranium mines and work to advance workers' rights by forming unions to achieve workplace democracy, according to her website.

Incumbent Kirk faces tight race against Duckworth for U.S. Senate

BY TALIA GOERGE-KARRON
NEWS EDITOR

The race for U.S. Senate in Illinois has gained national attention because of the strong likelihood that challenger Tammy Duckworth will unseat the incumbent, Mark Kirk on Nov. 8.

Recent polls indicate Duckworth will win. The Real Clear Politics website, which averages a variety of public polls, as of Oct. 2 shows Duckworth ahead by 7 points, 43.3 to 36.3 for Kirk. In U-High's mock election, Duckworth beat Kirk 77.6 percent to 22.4 percent.

Professor Gerald Rosenberg, a scholar of political science and law at the University of Chicago, suggested two reasons for likely possibility of Duckworth's success.

"The major one is that Illinois is a Democratic leaning state," Professor Rosenberg said. "Mark Kirk was elected in a non-presidential year, 2010, when turnout is much lower than a presidential year. He starts at a real disadvantage. If we didn't know the candidates, and we asked what party would be likely to win in 2016, the answer would be the Democrats. Second, is the question of what Hillary Clinton's margin is going to be in Illinois. The reason that matters is that most voters vote straight tickets."

Kirk was an U.S. Representative from 2001 to 2010. Before going into office, Kirk was in the United States Navy Reserve and went on various missions to Italy, Iraq and Afghanistan.

As a politician, Kirk disagrees with several Republican party po-

sitions, but he is fiscally conservative. He is pro-choice, and did not vote to defund Planned Parenthood. In 2013, he became the second sitting Republican to support same-sex marriage. The National Rifle Association gave him an "F" rating, which no other Republican senator received. Earlier this year, Kirk was the first Republican senator to support President Obama's right to nominate a new Supreme Court Justice. In addition, Kirk met with Merrick Garland, President Obama's nominee, and urged his fellow Republicans to do the same.

In the 2010 senatorial election against Alexi Giannoulias, Kirk won by 1.6 percentage points. But since then, Kirk's approval rating has gone down consistently among his constituents. Illinois is a traditionally Democratic-leaning state with some exceptions. In the 2008 and 2012 presidential elections, Barack Obama won Illinois. Hillary Clinton is expected to win Illinois in the 2016 election.

Duckworth, the Democratic nominee, has been a U.S. Representative since 2013, and is the first Thai person in the House of Representatives. She is an Iraq war veteran, and lost both of her legs when the helicopter she was piloting was shot down in Iraq.

As a politician, she supported the Affordable Care Act and abortion rights. She also believes in enhancing immigration policies and letting 100,000 Syrian refugees into the United States.

Professor Eric Oliver, who teaches political science at U. of C., said

that both candidates are trying to appeal to their target audience.

"They are trying to target their appeals to specific voters," Professor Oliver said. "She is trying to reach the core democratic constituencies, and emphasize the Democratic party platform. Kirk is doing just the opposite. He's trying to distance himself as much from the Republicans as he can. He's trying to appeal to centrist Democrats and moderates, but he doesn't seem to have much success doing that."

Voters to decide road money restrictions

Illinois voters will weigh in on one measure regarding transportation on the state ballot designed to prevent legislators from using revenue from transportation taxes and fees for other projects. If approved, transportation funds would be put into a "lockbox" to be used only for purposes such as road construction and repair, administering traffic laws, and paying off debt directly related to transit.

More than \$6.4 billion has been taken from the Illinois Road Fund since 2003 — voting for the Illinois Transportation Taxes and Fees Lockbox Amendment can prevent such a loss in the future.

Opponents of the measure stressed that voters should worry about further limiting the state's power to balance competing demands based on their importance.

— PRIYANKA SHRIJAY

Republicans grapple with Trump's campaign

BY DHEVEN UNNI
SPORTS EDITOR

When Donald Trump became the Republican nominee, many traditionally conservative voters faced a difficult choice. At U-High, some conservative students decided against lending Trump their support.

Junior John Grissom cites Trump's environmental and foreign policies as deal breakers for his support. While some Trump supporters embrace the fact that Trump isn't a traditional politician, John said he believes it demonstrates that Trump lacks the qualities that made previous Republican candidates successful.

"This election is tricky, because it's not necessarily a question of party affiliation," John said. "Trump just doesn't represent the Republican Party, even though he got the nomination. Nobody endorses him except for the people that endorse everyone in the party."

Junior Michael Hellie agrees, feeling that Trump isn't sufficiently Republican.

"Trump isn't a Republican," Michael said. "He's a clown who somehow got a nomination from the Republicans. In this particular instance, voting for Trump would not do anything to benefit the Republican Party or the country."

For Michael, the costs of a Trump presidency are large enough to warrant crossing party lines.

"After Mitt Romney lost in 2012, I think that the Republican Party has been slowly dying, which is very unfortunate," Michael said. "Youth votes are typically swinging more Democratic, and those

votes that would have gone Republican have been dissuaded by people like Donald Trump. In light of recent Republican party nominations and candidates, focusing more on policy over party is definitely important."

While Michael may not support Trump, Clinton's liberal fiscal policies combined with distrust prevent Michael from fully crossing over. John is also concerned with flaws that he sees in the nominee.

"They're both so bad," John said. "The main reason that I don't like Clinton is because I don't think she'll get anything done. She's a compromiser, the way I see it. She tries to make everyone happy, and sometimes you can't do that."

Although John dislikes both major nominees, he feels that third-party candidates such as Libertarian Party nominee Gary Johnson or Green Party nominee Jill Stein are the wrong choice.

"Gary Johnson is certainly better than Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump, but I wouldn't vote for a third-party candidate because it's essentially throwing away your vote," John said. "You should really vote for the big two. You aren't influencing what actually happens if you vote for a third-party candidate. Do I believe in Gary Johnson's ideals? Yeah, but he won't win."

In the end, John believes that between Clinton and Trump, Clinton wins by a slim margin.

"I like that she has so much experience and that she's married to Bill Clinton," John said. "I think that he would have a lot of influence over her. I would probably vote for Clinton, but unwillingly. Very, very unwillingly."

Clinton supporters show support by volunteering

BY NATALIE GLICK
ARTS EDITOR

Two freshmen have found a way to get involved with the election and support the candidate they care about. Nicky Sekhar and Charlotte Kistenbroker both volunteer with the Hillary Clinton campaign at a downtown office. Both students strongly support former Secretary of State Clinton.

"I am deathly afraid of a Donald Trump presidency," Nicky said. "It honestly keeps me awake at night thinking about it. Even though I can't vote, I want to do everything in my power to make sure [Donald Trump] doesn't become president. I still want my voice to be heard and support a candidate who I really agree with."

Charlotte said she connects with Clinton both on policy, but also the opportunities that Secretary Clinton could bring.

"What she believes in is what I believe in," Charlotte said. "Growing up, my mom was never told that she could be the president, or that she could be whatever she wanted to be. But I have been told these things on a regular basis, and having someone in office like Mrs. Clinton would really help make the vision of a female president become clear."

Both students enjoy the work that they have done, and encourage other students to use their voices and support the campaign.

"We do phone banking," Nicky said. "We call people and encourage them to vote and support the Clinton campaign. I would encourage other students to come and help. It's a really good learning experience and overall it is a lot of fun. You really feel like you are making a difference."

As the Midway sees it...

Safe spaces and trigger warnings misunderstood

In an era where protests are frequent, systemic injustice is rampant and generational tensions run high, safe spaces and trigger warnings are controversial terms that are frequently thrown around mindlessly. Addressed to incoming freshmen, the University of Chicago's letter to the community condemning safe spaces and trigger warnings seemed well intentioned. It rejects societal obsessions with political correctness, and addresses a concept that older generations have championed for some time now: a growing, student-imposed trend of "increasingly fragile college students," where young people "latch on to petty issues and scream and cry until they get their way" — as Jesse Singal commented on in his NY Magazine article, "The Myth of the Ever-More-Fragile College Student."

Despite speculated intent, it was a major flop. While the letter attempted to demonstrate the University's "commitment" to preserving "academic freedom," by providing single-sighted definitions of trigger warnings and safe spaces, it is no wonder the letter received backlash. As the youngest members of the University community, and with former Lab students making up 2 percent of the University's incoming freshman class, this letter

should not go unnoticed by students of the Lab School — where safe spaces and trigger warnings are often discussed and used to no such protest. Shutting down controversial discourse in the face of disagreement hinders one's ability to grow and develop as an intellectual and member of an ever-evolving, diverse community. However, it's important to remember that trauma and fear, which trigger warnings and safe spaces are meant to defend against, are not trivial. Expecting students to be stoic and silent when they are offended or sensitive to a topic by promoting a "deal with it" attitude ironically suppresses and invalidates the "defining characteristics" of the University's "commitment to freedom of inquiry and expression" mentioned in the letter. If a student feels offended by something that has been said, they should have the right to organize and create a space to inquire and express their reaction to that comment without feeling antagonized. On the other hand, another student, who might have been the one to say something offensive by another someone else's standards, has a right to explain themselves, regardless of consequences that may incur. These consequences, of course, would depend on how an institution defines the differ-

“Shutting down controversial discourse in the face of disagreement hinders one's ability to grow and develop as an intellectual and member of an ever-evolving, diverse community. However, it's important remember that trauma and fear, which trigger warnings and safe spaces are meant to defend against, are not trivial.”

ence between free speech and hate speech, and most likely, the circumstances and extent of the offense taken. Safe spaces are designed to be hate-speech-free zones, where people can discuss without feeling antagonized in condescending, malicious ways — not places where students shelter themselves from threatening, new or opposing ideas. Students should still strive to stay open minded and respectful of one another, and, as mentioned in the letter, avoid retreating from "ideas and perspectives at odds with their own." Learning how to face opposition head-on and confront disagreement diplomatically are life skills.



ARTWORK BY CHARLIE GRIMM

It is one of the reasons why people go to school in the first place — to learn how to interact with others, and handle conflict. University administrators didn't need to villainize trigger warnings. They are exactly what they sound like — warnings for people who might be sensitive to certain topics, intended to give people an opportunity to exit the conversation. It is an alert for sensitive material. They are not intended to discourage learning or thinking or to condemn the use of certain materials or words. Just as someone has the right to say what they please, people also have the right to not participate in a discussion, without owing anyone else an explanation.

The line between offensive speech and hate-speech is somewhat unclear. What might shock someone might seem excusable to someone else. Whether something is deemed acceptable, right or wrong, it is dependent on an institution's policies and of course, individual opinion. A minority opinion deserves to be heard as much as the majority's, even if it is upsetting to that majority. There is a difference between being open to intellectual challenge and discomfort, and feeling "unsafe." That must be distinguished. This editorial represents the opinion of the Midway's Editorial Board.

Midwestern oil pipeline disrespects Natives

Pipeline threatens deep cultural heritage of Standing Rock Sioux

BY TALIA GOERGE-KARRON
NEWS EDITOR
An oil pipeline through Native American sacred sites and underneath the Missouri River threatens to permanently destroy the Standing Rock Sioux's cultural heritage. The pipeline would carry oil to Illinois, passing through North Dakota, South Dakota and Iowa. The tribe is supported by 280 other Native American tribes around the country, and Indigenous people from around the world. The Da-

kota Access pipeline should not be built because it would destroy sacred spaces of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe. While the pipeline would provide jobs for people out of work, the jobs building the pipeline would only be available for a short period of time. The energy this pipeline would create would be useful to the greater good of America and its economy. Landowners would be compensated for their land by Energy Transfer, the

energy company behind the Dakota Access pipeline. Although this pipeline would create jobs and an increase to the overall economy, it would ruin part of America's cultural heritage. As a country, we have to protect the history of the Native people. We already have ruined the Standing Rock Sioux's homeland by putting them on a reservation and taking their land. The United States needs to acknowledge to the original inhabitants of America. Native Americans have always paid the price for their culture. The Indigenous people need to be treated with equal rights and equal representation.

A rupture in the oil pipeline resulting in spilled oil could potentially ruin water for millions of people. The tribe is seeking protection for 20 miles on the Missouri River at Lake Oahe in South Dakota. An oil spill would destroy water for the tribe and surrounding communities. Not only is the sacred nature of the area important but also the wellbeing of Americans. All religious sects have a right to their sacred spaces. If the Standing Rock Sioux were any other religious sect, they would be protected. Their religion is based in these sacred sites where graves, artifacts, and prayer sites could be

taken out completely. The people of the Standing Rock Sioux nation and their religious entity must be allowed to keep sacred spaces. The Standing Rock Sioux have a right to their native lands. Very few politicians have spoken out about this issue except for liberals, and its coverage in the media was limited until President Obama issued a halt to a judge's ruling to continue construction. This tribe needs a voice from inside the government to advocate for them. The Standing Rock Sioux tribe deserves justice and independence, not another land grab by a government more concerned with corporate interests than people.

Senior discovers ‘free spirit’ at journalism conference

BY CLYDE SCHWAB
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF
When I first learned about the "Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference" last winter, I didn't know what to make of the term "free spirit." The conference was to be held in Washington, D.C., in late June. by the Newseum and the Freedom Forum for rising seniors interested in careers in journalism. I learned about the conference's namesake, Al Neuharth, the founder of USA Today and the Newseum, and his game-changing role in journalism and fervent passion for the First

Amendment. And, by the end of a week filled with tours of D.C. and talks from esteemed journalists, I began to understand the notion of a free spirit and why it mattered. However, the question of what exactly a free spirit was remained unanswered for me throughout the application process. Was it some sort of hippy, flowers-in-hair kind of thing? I hardly identified with that image. Even when I learned I would be the student to represent Illinois, I still wasn't sure what to expect. My uncertainty didn't last long. I learned that a free spirit wasn't a caricature, it

was a person who took charge of their ambitions and wasn't afraid to fight and sacrifice for what they believed in. I joined 50 other students, one from each state and the District of Columbia, each of whom shared academic passion and adventure. These weren't students who worked on their paper for their résumé, these were people with whom I could bond over a genuine, shared interest in journalism. The conference was focused on the First Amendment and the role of a free press in a democratic society. Over the course of the week,

we met numerous accomplished journalists including Chuck Todd of NBC News and Sarah Ganim of CNN, toured the USA Today newsroom, visited landmarks around D.C. and discussed the First Amendment with U.S. District Court Judge Royce C. Lamberth. Although the conference was fascinating and the lessons in journalism engaging and invaluable, it wasn't just the content of the conference that I took home with me — it was the relationships I built there. My own passion for journalism helped me make friends among people who had

the same interests. It affirmed that my work for the Midway, however small, still meant something, both for fostering dialogue within our community and playing a part in the larger legacy of free press. **CORRECTIONS • ISSUE 1, SEPT. 9, 2016:** • Oran Diermeier-Lazar's name was misspelled on page 2. • Naadia Owens' name was misspelled on page 3. • An incorrect pulled quote was attributed to principal Stephanie Weber on page 3. Due to an editor error, a quote from a previous edition appeared instead. We deeply regret this mistake.

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SPEAKING UP ABOUT SOCIAL ISSUES

Incidents at Lab are not increasing but students are more expressive

BY ALEX LUND
OPINION EDITOR

Ignorance. Bigotry. Xenophobia. Sexism. Racism.

As with other high schools and communities around the country, these vexing social issues are among those which students at Lab still face in their daily life, though they are seldom discussed on a large scale.

Are recent political and international events to blame?

For Dean of Students Ana Campos, the answer is no. She believes she is seeing a gradual increase in students seeking her to talk about these issues because she and the counseling staff have made themselves visible and available. They are ready to support students through activities such as retreats and school assemblies for the apparent spike in dialogue — not the current state of the world.

If there's any reason why it seems that there's been an increase in the severity of these issues at Lab, Ms. Campos believes it is because students have been more vocal about expressing themselves when they are offended or threatened.

"Sadly, it's a part of life in a school, I think," Ms. Campos said, "where students are exploring their own identities, figuring out how to have interactions with other people around, sometimes, difficult and emotional subjects, and I think that when we are learning how to have those kinds of conversations, I think that sometimes things that are said are unintended, or just inappropriate. And that's when people learn. That's how people learn how their words make an impact."

Although students have said that most instances of social injustice at Lab seem unintended,

SI@UH

An occasional series exploring social issues at U-High

"Lab is like Chicago in that social injustices definitely exist. They merely happen in quieter, more nuanced ways that people don't always realize are as problematic as blatant shows of hate."

— Janine Liu, senior

and, according to Ms. Campos, do not seem directly related to recent affairs in the media and political stage, they continue to help eliminate stigmas, for example, by hosting events to educate their peers and celebrate their cultural similarities and differences.

"The annual Eid dinner is probably the most engaging event that we organize," junior and MSA member Sahar Siddiqui said. "Every year, it invites people of all races and religions and conveys the true message of Islam, which is one of peace and community."

Still, minority students have observed name-calling, slurs, and personal attacks on their peers in regard to their identities almost habitually.

"Lab is like Chicago in that social injustices definitely exist," senior Janine Liu said. "They merely happen in quieter, more nuanced ways that people don't always realize are as problematic as blatant shows of hate. I personally have experienced direct racism at Lab



MIDWAY ART BY CHARLIE GRIMM

STANDING OUT. Senior Janine Liu explained that like Chicago, Lab is a place where social injustice exists. Many minority students at U-High have observed name-calling, slurs and personal attacks on their peers because they are "different."

— my Asian friends and I were called ching-chongs and people love to think Chinese sounds remotely like 'ching chang ding dang bong', and I frequently hear slurs and problematic jokes tossed around, without the perpetrators batting an eye. But knowing the people who are saying those things — I know they would simply think I'm being too "sensitive" and keep making the jokes behind my back. Some just don't see the harsh reality of other people's lives, the disparities that they face merely because of harmless traits they cannot change."

So is it specifically a Lab issue, or simply the result of human interaction in a high school environment?

Either way, the subtle nature of

social injustices at Lab is something that students have identified as the main culprit and vehicle of continued injustices.

"There's a lot of xenophobia at Lab and the dangerous thing is that it's well hidden," sophomore Abraham Zelchenko said. "Nobody here goes around saying how much they hate black people but we see a lot of incidents where people do and say things that are offensive without realizing it or because they think it's not a big deal and they're just 'joking around'. Making jokes about rape or calling a friend an offensive name isn't funny, and trying to justify it by saying that you didn't mean it or not acknowledging that you did something wrong just paves the way for worse things."

Faculty reflect on their experiences during 9/11

BY EMMA TRONE
MIDWAY REPORTER

9/11 is a time of reflection and remembrance, and for faculty at Lab, Sept. 11 is a day that is remembered vividly. The Midway asked four members of the U-High faculty to reflect on their experiences during that day 15 years ago.

CAMILLE BAUGHN-CUNNINGHAM

"I remember it very well. As I was holding my daughter, feeding her before I took off for work, watching 'Good Morning America,' kind of distracted, and picking up little pieces and looking at the images that they were showing, and around that time they showed the second plane going into the second tower. Never had I seen anything like that, other than watching a film, and you're kind of thinking, 'Is this real, what's happening?'... Every day we're reminded of that incident in terms of the repercussions we're still dealing with. From threats of ISIS just this morning, hearing about bomb explosions, dealing with our presidential candidates and their plans for dealing with terrorism to the unfortunate racism that has resulted. So I think it's certainly affected our education system, our place in the world, how we're perceived as a nation, how we treat different individuals, and how we see the world as safe or unsafe.



Camille Baughn-Cunningham

What it means to be an American quite honestly has changed in some respects."

CINDY JURISSON

"I remember it vividly because I was in Blaine Lobby in the Lower School, at the bagel breakfast, having just taken our boys to meet their new teachers. There were probably a hundred other parents there, and someone spoke up and said, 'Hey, did you hear what's happening?' and the word started spreading through the crowd. Some parents took their children home but we didn't. At one point another parent said to a friend of mine who is Middle Eastern, 'Oh my God, this is going to be really problematic for Middle Easterners, you need to be careful, this looks really, really bad.' My friend and I were a bit surprised by this, she may have even been offended, but the other parent meant it in a concerned way, like, if this is really true, it could encourage, even justify bad treatment of Middle Easterners, Muslims, etc. His words turned out to be prescient in so many ways... One of the major joys and challenges of teaching history is to help students learn to see various current events as part of a much larger series of causes and effects, and accurately identify both the probable causes and the potential consequences of those events. A couple of historians have recently suggested



Cindy Jurisson

that if the U.S. had had a Council of Historical Advisers, similar to the Council of Economic Advisers, we might have pursued a different Middle East strategy post 9/11, which might have resulted in a more positive outcome today. I'm inclined to agree...In terms of what current Lab students don't understand about 9/11, most of them weren't born yet so it's hard for them to grasp the shock of that era. In many ways I'm glad they didn't experience it. Most Americans had little knowledge of classical Islam and little contact with Muslim Americans, and in that vacuum 9/11 functioned as a terrifying and very distorted introduction to this faith tradition."

MARK KREWATCH

"My first day of teaching was on 9/11, and my father-in-law called and my wife woke me up, and we turned on the TV and watched the second plane hit, and the towers come down. So what is incredibly interesting and coincidental but in a meaningful way is this is my first day of teaching and I didn't know if we had class or not. I assumed that I needed to drive up to the college to teach and wait to see if the students would come in... Their assigned reading for that day was an essay about the Oklahoma City bombing. The essay was called 'The Militia in Me' by Denis Johnson and it looked at how conflicted he was because



Mark Krewatch

he had been very sympathetic to the point of view of sort of freedom fighters... So here we are, and we've got this tenfold worse bombing that has just happened, and people are assuming that maybe it had to do with terrorists in the Middle East. I think maybe there was something thankful about the fact that we were already talking about this but we weren't talking about it in terms of Islamic terrorism... What I recognized then was that you need some sort of balance. If you only provide the one example, people are going to attack the characters, people, ideas, culture, or it might seem like they are, even if they're just addressing what's in front of them. If you give them something else parallel, it gives them the opportunity to say 'I'm not just attacking Muslim extremists, I'm attacking the idea of extremism' and they can make comparisons between the two."

STEPHANIE WEBER

"I was living in New York on September 11 and working in New Jersey... All I knew was that the planes had crashed into the Twin Towers and I watched television for just a few minutes as the first tower collapsed. The rest of the day involved taking care of our school community. I managed to get back to New York at the end of the day though all signs read 'No Access to New York City'... The city was eerily quiet; there was no traf-



Stephanie Weber

Behind the scenes

BY MARISSA MARTINEZ
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Diane Williams, secretary to the Dean of Students, has worked on the University campus for 25 years. Her responsibilities include assisting with administrative duties such as payments, reimbursements and refunds.



Diane Williams

What's your favorite part of your job?

Working with students. I like to interact with them and help them to understand other things about life than just school. I like to know what they want to do in life and talk to them about their future, anything I can point out to them.

What's something unexpected you do in your free time?

Teaching piano lessons. I'm also a writer: film, song lyric, short stories, theater productions, poems. I like to write about family relationships, the interaction between men and women. I love those, mostly. I'm working on [getting published].

What do you wish people understood about your position or department?

No department here is less than the other. They all work together. It's like a pie. You can't make it without all the ingredients.

What's one piece of advice you have for students our age?

Pay attention. There are a lot of things happening in the world today. The world needs people to stand up and leaders to steer this world in the right direction. If the kids are not paying attention to what's going on around them, we don't have anyone to take hold of the reins.

"Starting that night, people were hanging up posters with pictures of loved ones who were missing. The posters were up for months and months."

— Stephanie Weber,
U-High principal

fic... I first stopped at my brother's apartment who recalled being in his office downtown watching the first tower burn and seeing the second plane come around and crash into the second tower and then being terrified there was going to be an all-out assault on lower Manhattan. We were with friends and mostly we didn't have a lot to say, and we just sat there in disbelief... Starting that night, people were hanging up posters with pictures of loved ones who were missing. The posters were up for months and months. I came through Penn Station every day, and there were just entire walls full of posters asking 'Have you seen ...' with a photo of someone who was lost. And no one took them down even though at a certain point you knew that no one would be found; there was nothing left. ... I would certainly say that I was impacted, but not directly. I wasn't there, and though I knew people who perished in the World Trade Center no one in my direct family did. So, there's that connection as a New Yorker and the way it changed life in the city, yet I have to recognize that there's that distance and respect that my experience was not the same as a that of those who experienced it firsthand."

New athletic trainer aims to support students

Chicago native Ashley Alonso gives both medical and personal care

BY NATALIE GLICK
ARTS EDITOR

Wrapping the knee of a student while keeping a smile on her face, new trainer Ashley Alonso serves as students' support system, both in athletics and in life. Before working at U-High, Ms. Alonso worked with adults in rehab at Athletico, but she said her passion was always working with high school students.

When given the opportunity to come be the trainer, Ms. Alonso jumped at the chance. Having grown up in Chicago and attended DePaul College Prep as a high school student, Ms. Alonso had heard many great things about Lab, and is excited to get to know the school better.

"I have already met a lot of really great kids," Ms. Alonso said. "I am excited to get to know the school and the student body better."

When she was studying at Milikin University, Ms. Alonso realized that her heart wasn't in nursing and wanted to find a different path.

"I wasn't in love with nursing. Honestly, I didn't enjoy it that much," Ms. Alonso said. "I had some friends who were sports trainers and they told me to come and shadow them for the day. I fell in love with the work. I took two things that I really enjoy, sports and medicine, and made them one job."

Ms. Alonso's work has many moving parts to ensure that athletes get back together as fast as possible.

"I work with both the high

"I feel like I'm already building a relationship with her since I spend so much time with her after school. We talk a lot and are really getting to know each other."

— Alex Stevanovich, sophomore

school and the middle school doing the same type of work. I am the first one on the scene of an injury. If it is needed I will send the students off to doctors, and help facilitate rehab," Ms. Alonso said. "I also help students get back from their injuries and make sure they are ready to get back out there and play at their best."



Hannah Herrera

One of these students is cross country runner Hannah Herrera, a sophomore, who had a dislocated patella earlier this season. Ms. Alonso suggested Hannah should see a doctor.

"When I told her about my appointment with a sports medicine doctor she told me that she wanted to be there too," Hannah said. "She does a really good job making personal connections with all of the athletes."

Ms. Alonso is looking forward to building relationships with students and getting to know the U-High community better.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY BAILEY GARB

THAT'S A WRAP! New hire Ashley Alonso bandages freshman Donna Tong's hand after a wrist injury. As athletic trainer, Mrs. Alonso handles student injuries that happen at practice or in games. She also directs the athletes' rehabilitations when necessary.

"I have loved working with all of the kids who I have met, and I am really looking forward to meeting new students," Ms. Alonso said. "I am a really laid-back person and I am excited to make an impact on this community with my work."

Sophomore runner Alex Stevanovich already feels welcomed by Ms. Alonso.

"I have shin splints, so I've been

working with her every day after cross country practice," Alex said. She gives me exercises to strengthen my calves and shins, works with me to help me run long distances again, and has me ice my shins. I feel like I'm already building a relationship with her since I spend so much time with her after school. We talk a lot and are really getting to know each other."

Ms. Alonso wants to help students with more than sports problems.

"I understand what you guys are going through," Ms. Alonso said. "I get all the pressure that students are put under. I was a three-season athlete in high school, I know how much time it takes. I always have an open door, no matter what the problem is."

RECENT RESULTS



MIDWAY PHOTO BY TERESA XIE

PLAYING TO WIN. Lining up for a kick, sophomore Connor Smith on Jackman Field against Walter Payton College Prep Sept. 23. The team lost the game 1-2, after defeating Intrinsic Charter School three days earlier. The soccer team has focused on mentality in practices, according to sophomore Matt Atassi, in the hope that hard work and focus will bring them more success in their games.

VOLLEYBALL, VARSITY

Recent results: Beat North Shore Country Day School Oct. 8, 23-25, 25-20, 25-19; lost to Latin School of Chicago Oct. 5, 21-25, 13-25; beat Curie Metropolitan High School Oct. 1, 25-15, 25-23; beat Thornwood High School Oct. 1, 25-15, 19-25, 25-14; beat Eisenhower High School, 25-14, 25-17; lost to Walter Payton College Prep Sept. 30, 22-25, 12-25; lost to Thornton Fractional North High School Sept. 30, 20-25, 18-25; beat Morgan Park Academy Sept. 27, 25-20, 25-15; beat Willows Academy Sept. 23, 25-3, 25-13; placed second at the 15th Annual Westminster Invitational Sept. 17, lost at Woodlands Academy Sept. 15, 24-26; beat Rich East High School Sept. 9, 25-14.

VOLLEYBALL, JUNIOR VARSITY

Recent results: Lost to Latin School of Chicago Oct. 5, 16-25, 15-25; beat Morgan Park Academy Sept. 27, 25-16, 25-13; lost to Willows Academy 20-25, 18-25; beat Southland College Prep Sept. 20, 19-25, 25-21, 25-18; lost at the 15th Annual Westminster Invitational Sept. 17; lost to Woodlands Academy Sept. 15, 18-25, 9-25; placed seventh at the Latin JV Volleyball Friendship Tournament; lost to Rich East High School Sept. 9, 12-25, 20-25.

TENNIS, VARSITY

Recent Results: Beat St. Ignatius Oct. 5, 4-1, lost to Fenwick High School Oct. 4, 2-3; beat North Shore Country Day School Sept. 30, 4-1; lost to Latin School of Chicago Sept. 27, 1-4; beat Niles West Quad Sep. 24, 4-1; beat Parker Sep. 16, 4-1; beat Elgin Academy Sep. 13, 5-0.

TENNIS, JUNIOR VARSITY

Recent Results: Lost to St. Ignatius Oct. 5, 0-5; lost to Fenwick High School Oct. 4, 1-4; beat North Shore Country Day School Sep. 30, 5-0; lost to Latin School of Chicago Sep. 27, 1-4; beat Woodlands Academy Sep. 20, 4-1; beat FW. Parker Sep. 16, 3-2; SCORE Elgin Academy Sep. 13; beat Morgan Park Academy Sep. 8, 5-0.

TENNIS, FROSH/SOPH

Recent Results: Beat Illiana Christian High School Sep. 23, 3-2; lost to North Shore Country Day School Sep. 16, 1-4; beat Regina Dominican Sept. 09, 5-0.

SOCCER, VARSITY

Recent results: Lost to De La Salle Institute Oct. 10, 1-2; beat Beecher High School Oct. 7, 1-0; beat UNO Charter Garcia Campus School Oct. 4, 2-1; tied with Eric Solorio Academy Sept. 29, 1-1; beat North Shore Country Day Sept. 27, 1-0; lost to Walter Payton College Prep Sept. 23, 1-2; beat Intrinsic Charter School Sept. 20, 1-0; lost to Romeoville High School Sept. 17, 0-3; beat Elgin Academy Sept. 15, 8-0; lost to Northside College Prep Sep. 13, 0-2; lost to Riverside-Brookfield High School Sept. 10, 0-3; lost to Latin School of Chicago Sep. 9, 1-6; tied with Francis Parker Sept. 7, 0-0; beat Morgan Park Academy Sept. 2, 7-0; lost to Marist High School Aug. 27, 0-1; beat Fenwick High School Aug. 24, 2-1; lost to Sheperd High School Aug. 22, 1-5.

SOCCER, JUNIOR VARSITY

Recent results: Beat Eric Solorio Academy Sep. 29, 6-2; beat North Shore Country Day Sept. 27, 6-3;

lost to Intrinsic Charter School Sep. 20, 1-2; lost to Lane Technical High School Sept. 16, 0-2; beat Northridge College Prep Sep. 13, 3-2; lost to Riverside-Brookfield High School Sep. 10, 0-2; tied with Latin School of Chicago Sep. 9, 1-1; tied with Francis Parker Sep. 6, 1-1; lost to Lane Technical High School Aug. 25, 1-4.

SAILING, VARSITY

Recent results: placed ninth at the MISSA Autumn Classic Oct. 8; placed fourth at the MISSA Great Oaks Championship Oct. 1; placed third at the MISSA Great Oaks Championship Qualifier Oct. 01; placed third and 11th at the Pewaukee Fall Scramble Sep. 17; placed third at the Kick Off Classic Sept. 10.

GOLF, VARSITY

Recent results: Nikki Menta placed second at the IHSA A Girls Golf Sectional Oct. 10, results unavailable; participated at the IHSA Boys Sectional Golf Tournament Oct. 10, results unavailable; participated at the IHSA Girls A Regional Championship Oct. 5, results unavailable; participated at the IHSA 1A Golf Regional Championship Oct. 4, results unavailable; participated at the ISL Golf Championships Sept. 27, results unavailable; played Elgin Academy Sept. 13, score unavailable; lost to Latin School of Chicago Sept. 9, 195-181; beat Francis Parker Sept. 9, 188-194; beat Morgan Park Academy Aug. 25, 177-200; lost to North Shore Country Day School Aug. 24, 169-174; beat Northridge College Prep Aug. 23, 166-172; won at the ISL vs. MSC Challenge Cup Aug. 16.

— COMPILED BY LEAH EMANUEL, MICHAEL RUBIN AND DHEVEN UNNI

Latin, Lab students bond over hockey team

On citywide team with other schools, players find new friends

BY DHEVEN UNNI
SPORTS EDITOR

Despite rivalries between U-High and the Latin School of Chicago, some Maroons students don Roman jerseys each week. Latin's hockey team unites players from schools around Chicago to play together.

Since individual schools didn't have enough players to make their own teams, students from U-High joined peers from Latin, Jones College Prep, Whitney Young Magnet High School, and Walter Payton College Prep to form a combined hockey team. Latin agreed to pick up the team's funding in exchange for naming the team. Although Lab and the other schools now contribute funding, the name has stuck according to senior Kendra Nealey.

Along with Kendra, senior Alex Rodman, sophomore Grant Fishman and freshmen Luke Sikora, Conor Hogarth and Jacob Levine are this year's players from U-High. Since Grant also plays for a club team, he is accustomed to playing with people from a variety of schools.

"I just tell people that it's a mix of kids, and it's not really Latin," Grant said. "It's just different because I'm pretty much the only Lab kid. We do tournaments together, though, so we bond as a team. It starts to feel like you go to the same school because they become your friends."

While the name of the team may be Latin, Kendra thinks it might be more fitting if it were named for Chicago instead.



MIDWAY PHOTO BY PAIGE FISHMAN

LAB STUDENT, LATIN JERSEY. Sophomore Grant Fishman plays right wing against Loyola Academy Oct. 4 at Johnny's Ice House. Grant plays for the Latin School hockey team, which is made up of students from five different schools around Chicago despite carrying Latin's name.

"I've always thought about what it would be like if we could pick a different name for the team," Kendra said. "Instead of Latin Romans of Chicago, if it was just a Chicago team, it would make things clearer. Everyone thinks that we all go to Latin. I just wonder what people

would think if there were a different name."

Although the players have capitalized on their relationships and skills to find success, Kendra feels there isn't a lot of recognition for the team at Lab.

"We won state in my sophomore

year," Kendra said, "and every other school bought the flag that said 'Latin Girls Hockey Champions.' Lab was the only one that didn't buy the flag and hang it up. I don't know if they knew, and it doesn't bother me, but it just showed that Lab doesn't really know what we're

"I didn't even know where everyone went in the first few years, because it doesn't really matter. All that matters is that we're a team."

— Kendra Nealey, senior

doing."

Alex agrees that their team is often overlooked, citing the name as one possible reason.

"Nobody knows about Latin hockey," Alex said. "Lab is a big part of it though. People from our school have a big impact on the sport and the team. It's hard to explain to people, but it doesn't feel like Latin. It feels like my team. I think it would be cool if they changed the name, because it's awkward when people assume you go to Latin, but in the end it's just a name. It doesn't affect me too much."

While the name may contribute, Alex believes that other factors also explain why their team isn't as recognized.

"Part of the reason people don't know about us might be because there's a Latin rivalry, but it's also how far away the school is," Alex said. "Not a lot of people play girls hockey, so I think that part of the reason no one knows about us is because there aren't a lot of people. It's making its way up there though, especially in high school."

Regardless of school competitions, Kendra focuses on the team as a whole during their competitions.

"I've never had that Latin-versus-Lab mindset," Kendra said. "I guess we're competitive, but you don't really notice when you're on a team. I didn't even know where everyone went in the first few years, because it doesn't really matter. All that matters is that we're a team."

Swimmers join volleyball team in breast cancer fight

BY DHEVEN UNNI
SPORTS EDITOR

Two U-High teams are raising money to fund breast cancer research, donating almost \$800 in the first "Dive to Save Lives" on Oct. 1.

At their first meet, the swim team members sold shirts and wristbands to raise money and bring further awareness to breast cancer. The sales raised \$795 for the cause.

Senior Zoe Rebollo-Baum, who was one of the organizers, plans on buying more shirts for next year because they sold out so quickly.

While this is the first year U-High has hosted Dive to Save Lives,

the swim team has contributed to breast cancer fundraisers before.

"Every October, which is breast cancer month, we wear pink swimming caps instead of the black caps to raise awareness," Zoe said. "This year, we decided to do a meet to raise awareness as well as the caps. We were hosting on the

first day of October, so we thought it would be very fun to get people to our meets and raise money for

breast cancer research at the same time."

The money helped contribute funding to ongoing research programs at the university.

"Our coach, since she's an EMT, has a relationship with the University of Chicago hospital so they allowed us to put their name on the back of our shirts," Zoe said. "All the proceeds that we made went to them. Mr. Ribbens arranged for the shirts and our coach personally bought the bracelets, so we got all of it for free. We sold the shirts and bracelets at the meet and gave the money to the university for breast cancer research."

One of the inspirations that the

swim team members had when they created the meet was the annual Dig Pink game that the volleyball team will host for the same cause on Friday.

"My coach presented the idea and then we carried it out by ourselves while she paid for it," Zoe said. "I've always found Dig Pink really cool. I'm friends with some of the captains of the volleyball team, and they've always spoken highly of it. It's a great event. We wanted to do something with the whole swim team, and we thought it would make the invitational we host every year a little more special."

Volleyball coach Lisa Miller

helped her players organize the Dig Pink game, though they contribute to an organization called the Dig Pink Side-Out Foundation unlike the girls swim team.

One of the primary concerns while organizing the game was making sure it would be accessible to as many students as possible to reach the most people.

"We specifically chose it to be on a Friday because we thought we would have more support from the student body, as they didn't have to go home and do homework," Ms. Miller said. "I think that the soccer team has a game that finishes just in time for them to come up and cheer us on."



Zoe Rebollo-Baum

QUICK Q

How are some of Lab's teams preparing to improve in the fall season?

SAILING:

"The team's biggest hope is to qualify for the Great Lakes Championship. We already qualified for one national invitational in New Orleans and hopefully we'll do well there. We've done decently so far, but we want to improve our scores as the season progresses. Practicing our tactics and improving our starts should go a long way there. The team is fairly small, so we're all pretty close."



Sam Morin

VOLLEYBALL:

"I hope that we make it to sectionals. The team is really strong this year, and we play really well when we're all in the same mindset. We definitely need to work on communication and being a more cohesive team. This has definitely been one of our strongest years though. It took a lot to adjust to our new coach's style, but it no longer hinders our performance, and we've become a lot closer as a result."



Tamera Shaw

CROSS COUNTRY:

"Our goal is to have a great time running, but also make it to States and do well there. We've had a lot of injuries, because that's one of the hazards of running. The team usually runs along the lakefront at practices or we do time trials, and we always do core workouts afterwards. That's really important because it helps both with getting comfortable with running, and also improves your stamina."



Alex Stevanovich

TENNIS:

"I hope that our team will stay as close as it is now. There's a lot of competition between the players. I don't want us to drift, especially since school is so busy. I think that we've made good connections and I hope that we can maintain them. It would be really nice if we made it to States, and I think unity would help a lot with that. I'm really proud of our team because we've been really strong this year."



Sarah Markovitz

SOCCER:

"We want to win at least our first two games in the playoffs. We've focused a lot on mentality lately because we realized that we all need to take it more seriously if we want to get anywhere. I think the captains have done a good job of making sure we stay on top of our game and listen to the coaches. If we really stick to a more focused mentality and work harder, I think we'll have a lot more goals."



Matt Atassi

— COMPILED BY DHEVEN UNNI

Fly the “W”: Potential Cubs series excites fans

After 108 years, baseball team could provide fans with long-overdue win

BY SONNY LEE
FEATURES AND LIFESTYLE EDITOR

It's June 2016, and the players probably aren't the only ones sweating in Wrigley Field. An audience of 40,000 strong rise to their feet, wearing red, white and blue, each with their eyes fixed with anticipation on the player strolling up to bat. 24-year-old Willson Contreras is about to take his first swing in Major League Baseball, and he has a stadium full of Chicago Cubs fans surrounding him — encouraging the rookie.



Tomer Keysar

Spinning the ball clockwise, Pittsburgh Pirates right-hander A.J. Shugel cannons a pitch towards Contreras. The crack of the baseball meeting the bat is followed only by deafening and thunderous cheers as Contreras sends his first hit in the Major Leagues 415 feet dead into center field. The crowd. Goes. Wild.

Junior Tomer Keysar was one of those 40,000 that night.

“I’ve never heard anything that loud in my life,” Tomer, who plays on the U-High team, said as he described his all-time favorite moment of the Cubs.

This season in particular is one to watch for — even if you aren't a sports fanatic.

“It's really exciting because they've been building up these players and the manager is relatively new,” Tomer explained. “He has this amazing strategy where he creates a very laid back environment which allows the players to feel comfortable on the field and relaxed. The players play their best

“They have no obvious and potentially fatal flaws. they have the best defense in baseball in a quarter of a century. they have the toughest pitching staff to crack in 40 years.”

—Tom Verducci, writer for SI

when the pressure is low.”

Finishing the regular season with a record of 103-58, the Cubs team is the most favorable team to win the 2016 World Series.

Tom Verducci wrote “In-Depth Look At Why Cubs Have All the Ingredients to End World Series Drought” for Sports Illustrated: “They have no obvious and potentially fatal flaws. They have the best defense in baseball in a quarter of a century. They have the toughest pitching staff to crack in 40 years. They have patched the obvious holes in their offense from last year that caused them to get swept by the Mets in the National League Championship Series.”

With this much momentum going for them, the fans are even more excited and hopeful that this could be the year that the Cubs win the World Series for the first time in 108 years.

Tomer explained that his favorite part about rooting for the Cubs team was the sense of community and the energy that fills the stadium at every game. But besides the energy and constantly packed stadium, the history of Wrigley Field is also incredibly rich and is one of the things that makes the Cubs team so worthy of its super fans. With its iconic ivy-covered outfield walls, Wrigley Field is the oldest National League ballpark, and second oldest active Major League



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY TOMER KEYSAR

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME. Flush with Cubs bobble-heads, hats, tickets and signed memorabilia, junior Tomer Keysar is just one out of many Cubs superfans eagerly waiting for the Chicago team to bring a much anticipated trophy.

ballpark after Fenway Park.

Fans feel that supporting the Cubs is a way they show pride in their city.

“You love your city and you love your teams,” junior Matan Diermeier-Lazar said. “If you went to the Blackhawks parade in 2015, the whole city was there. There were like 2 million people in Grant Park during it. There was just so much pride for our city.”

Building on the sense of community, Tomer explained how the communities at every game connected fans from all over the city.

“I think what's so amazing about baseball — people always say it's boring, but really, it's more of a so-

cial sport,” Tomer explained. “You always go with friends, and even if you go alone, everyone there is so connected. There's already this community of Cubs fans, and you'll always celebrate with the people around you when something great happens.”

Fans like senior Robert Hannah feel that growing up playing baseball allows them to identify and find a different sort of respect for the Cubs team.

“They are my favorite because I play baseball,” senior Robert Hannah, who also plays on the U-High team, said. “I understand it more and I think it makes it a little more personal just because I under-

stand it all so much. As a young baseball player my dream was to play at Wrigley for the Cubs, so it's personal for me.”

For all the super fans, this season has brought hope and pride. Even Chicagoans who aren't fans of baseball should keep an eye out for Cubs news because this season might be the one Chicago has been waiting 108 years for.

The Cubs haven't won the World Series since 1908, and they're going with a lot of momentum this year given the relatively new manager and the amount of talent on the team. Maybe even enough momentum to break the 108-year drought. Knock on wood.

Sparkling water brings healthier, energizing replacement

BY LEAH EMANUEL
MIDWAY REPORTER

Staring into the illuminated fridge, Gabby Conforti scans the shelves, stocked with a variety of fruits and vegetables. She reaches in to grab what she's been looking for. Gabby wraps her hand around the cold can and excitedly pulls it out of the fridge. She hears a smooth pop as she opens the can, and listens to the fizz as carbon dioxide bubbles escape from the liquid and move toward the surface.

For most high school students it is not uncommon to enjoy a soda with their dinner. However, Gabby, a senior, prefers a refreshing LaCroix Sparkling Water instead of a 150-calorie can of Coke.

“My family is particularly healthy,” Gabby said. “My mom never stated that she was banning soda, but we just never had it in our house.”

As Americans became more health-conscious, the crave for a sugary soda began to decrease, and according to the International Bottled Water Association the consumption of Sparkling Water produced in the United States increased by 58 percent from 2010 to 2014. Driven by the drastic health differences between LaCroix and a can of Coke, drinking sparkling water over a sugary soda is a current trend among teenagers.

Both soda and sparkling water are carbonated drinks, but sparkling water contains no sodium, no calories and no artificial flavors. The only ingredients in each LaCroix can are carbonated water

“As Americans became more health-conscious, the crave for a sugary soda began to decrease, and according to the International Bottled Water Association the consumption of sparkling water produced in the United States increased by 58 percent from 2010 to 2014.”

and natural flavors. The natural fruit flavors in LaCroix are derived from the natural essence oils in the different fruits. There are no added sugars or sweeteners in the drinks.

Unlike Gabby, sophomore Stephanie Miller was a regular soda drinker. As she began to take basketball more seriously, Stephanie became more aware of her diet.

“Sparkling water is much healthier than soda,” Stephanie said, “so I decided to drink more sparkling water to limit how much soda I was drinking.”

The body negatively responds to each can of soda consumed, according to a post on the Medical Daily website. By taking a sip of soda a person's pancreas quickly begins to form insulin in response to the sugar. The insulin moves the sugar from the drink into the bloodstream. Cells then use this sugar as energy, causing the blood sugar levels to spike. The liver then responds to this, turning the sugar into fat for storage.

The first week after restricting

LACROIX VS...



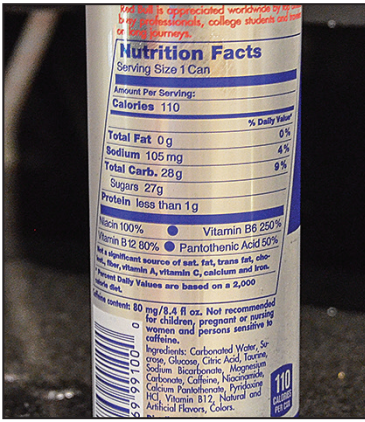
LaCroix, 0 calories



Coke, 240 calories



Naked, 320 calories



Redbull, 110 calories

MIDWAY PHOTOS BY BENJI WITTENBRINK

soda was difficult for Stephanie. However, after the initial week she said she noticed a definite change in her attitude and energy levels. Stephanie's energy no longer fluctuated throughout the day, but she stayed more energetic and exuberant all day long.

The first couple times Stephanie looked into the brightly lit fridge for a refreshing drink, she had to steer her hands away from the cans of soda lined up along the shelves, but soon she craved the sparkling taste of LaCroix over a sugary can of Coke.

Quick LaCroix Facts

How do you pronounce LaCroix?
La-croy, it rhymes with “enjoy.”
Originating in Wisconsin, LaCroix is a cross between the St. Croix river that runs along Wisconsin's border and LaCrosse, the hometown where the drink originated.

When did the drink originate?
The beverage was started by GE Heileman, a small family-run brewery in Wisconsin, in 1981, and was later acquired by a larger national corporation.

What makes the ingredients from the flavors in LaCroix?
The flavors are made from the essential oils extracted from the fruit of the named drink.

How many flavors of LaCroix are available?
20, ranging from unflavored sparkling water to exotic flavors. Consumers can taste three new flavors, including melón pomelo (grapefruit melon), kiwi sandía (kiwi watermelon) and muré pepino (blackberry cucumber).

SOURCES: THRILLIST AND LACROIX WEBSITES