



Warriors & Wildcats Report

No. 43 • June 15, 2016

Happy Graduation season from the Uni Hi Education Foundation, the official alumni support organization for University High School. Your comments and contributions make this report better, so send us a note at Connect@UHEF.org.

The **Warriors & Wildcats Report** is free for anyone who signs up: [click here](#) to go to the subscription page, fill in your name and e-mail address and you'll receive the WWR in your e-mail inbox! T-E-L-L your friends!

UNI ONLINE YEARBOOK PROJECT: FIRST-LOOK POSTINGS OF NINE NEW YEARS

- ▣ Nine additional Chieftains between 1929 and 1965 are now posted on the UHEF.org site and available for viewing [here](#). You can take a look at Uni as it was in 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1936, 1950 and 1965.

Also available on the site is a unique scrapbook of Uni student and faculty involvement in World War II. This notebook carefully logged the participation, theater and press clippings from those served the U.S. during the greatest conflict of the 20th Century.

While Chieftains are being posted from oldest to newest, the 1950 and 1965 yearbooks "jumped the line" thanks to the support of two devoted Uni alumni: **Buddy Fischer** '50 and **Steve Sills** '65.

If you would like to see your yearbook brought online more quickly, you can ask for "Advanced Publication." For a donation to the UHEF of \$499 (the average cost of digitizing and posting a single yearbook), a specific year can be brought forward in the order and posted online more rapidly than normal.

If you would like to be the Class Presenter for any of the yearbooks, please [click here](#) and in the space for "How are you affiliated with Uni?," please write "Class Presenter 19xx" for the year which you want to support. Class Presenters receive two complimentary downloads of their year and Presenter status on the class page.

When you visit the UHEF.org [Yearbooks page](#), you can click on any of the covers and browse any of the books now online. If you click the “Purchase” button below each cover, you’ll be taken to another page with options for:

- (1) Buying a download (PDF) of that yearbook, for \$99, or
- (2) Buying a download (PDF) of that yearbook and adding a Dedication that will be shown on that page indefinitely, for \$149, or
- (3) Buying a download (PDF) of that yearbook and becoming a Presenter of that class yearbook (if available), shown on the top of the page indefinitely, for \$199.

Payments are taken by credit card through PayPal, but you don’t have to have a PayPal account to use it. Questions? Send your inquiries to Connect@UHEF.org and we’ll get back to you ASAP!

GRADUATION CEREMONIES HELD FOR THE CLASS OF 2016

- ▣ A festive commencement ceremony was held for 378 members of the Class of 2016 on June 10, on the field at Kampmann Stadium.

Uni Principal **Eric Davidson** saluted the graduates with the following address:

“Families, friends, and members of the Class of 2016:

“We can change the world. It won't be one or some of you that will make the change. It will take all of us to heal the disease of complacency that infects us all. No matter the color of our skin, the language of our home, the size of our bank account, or the limits of our intellect, it will take all of us to take the necessary actions.

“The bad news is the complexity of the problems that confront us appear to be so insurmountable that no human effort can overcome the decay of our environment or our society. The good news is our collective capacity to innovate and create can surprise even our greatest naysayers.

“I believe in our humanness, our curiosity and our faith, in our ability to be kind to those in greatest need, our strength in numbers, our resolve to do the right thing when it is in opposition to doing things right, our persistence against injustice, our questioning of authority, our engagement in democratic processes, our tolerance of difference, our forgiveness to those who treat us with disrespect, our delight in discovery, and our love of family.

“I believe in you, in the causes you will fight for, in your dissent of the things that need to be questioned, in the light of your smile, in the trust you have in one another, in the happiness you hold in your heart that you will share with the less fortunate among us, and the time you will take to find joy in your own life.

“Students, take a moment and say thank you for the love your families have for you. Parents, tell your graduate they are welcome. I will say, please be excellent to each other and sorry if we have not given our best.

“The pride I feel in this moment will soon be replaced by a sense of loss I will have once you are gone. You will always be in my heart and the memories we have created in our time together will be remembered for the rest of my life.

“Bon voyage. Vaya con Dios, Live long and prosper, Class of 2016.”

FIRST PERSON: THE MAGIC OF COACH K

- ▣ **Lee Johnsen** ‘64 (dodgevan72@yahoo.com) sent in a comment to the UHEF.org site, recounting his unique experience at Uni when he was successfully recruited by Coach **Dick Kampmann** to join the Warrior track & field squad:

“I had the honor of running one year of track under Coach Kampmann at Uni in Spring, 1964. He had watched me take joy in running up and down the basketball court and invited me to come out for the track team in my last semester at Uni. I had never run in a track meet in my life and had no great expectations. He was skillful in building those ambitions and in making me love/respect the sport.

“He took me and a hundred other athletes under his wing and I hope they are all as grateful as I am. Our 440-yard runners placed 1-2-4 in Western League that year, and my 880-yard guys placed 1-2-5. I still have my medal and it rightfully belongs to Coach K. We only had one home league meet because our track infield had gigantic gopher holes for a sprinkler system all season, but I remember Coach K running around the infield of each track where we had meets and yelling at me as I came around each turn.

“At Palisades, I had never run in a staggered start before, and had never led in a race before. When we came out of the stagger, I didn't know that I was the lead runner because I started in the far outside position and could not see any of the other runners. Coach K yelled at me to take the pole and I'm not sure what I ever would have done otherwise! When you were competing, it seemed like he only cared about you.

“Great memories! My four children became excellent track runners at Rio Mesa High School under an equally-talented High School track coach named Brian Fitzgerald.”

A DVD of the entire Kampmann-Patton Honors Luncheon is being prepared. Look for details on how to order one later this summer!

ON CAMPUS

- ▣ The resurrected Uni Speech & Debate Team finished their inaugural season strongly, reports team mentor **Ethan Keough** (ethankeogh@gmail.com):

*“Team Uni had a great experience at the [California High School Speech Association] State Tournament in Santa Clara the weekend of April 15th. Two of our team qualified, **Hannah Grace Smith** [in Oratorical Interpretation] and **Aaron Rovinsky** [in Impromptu Speaking]. It was their first time at the tournament. Neither one advanced beyond the preliminary rounds. But they got to compete with the best, learned a ton, and we had a great time.*

*“At The Orator’s Cup tournament at Cal State Fullerton on May 28, Team Uni fared extremely well. Newcomer **Guillermo Hercules** took first place in Thematic Interpretation. Hannah Grace Smith took second in Oratorical Interpretation. **Pradeep Muthaya** took fifth in Impromptu Speaking, and Aaron Rovinsky took fifth in Congress. It was the final tournament of the year, and the team is energized and excited to return in the fall.”*

▣ Uni Spring sports report: *Follow the Wildcats on Twitter: [@Utownsports](#)*

- Boys/Volleyball:

Congratulations to Uni seniors **Josh Kim** and **Juwan Seaberry**, who were named to the [All-City](#) first and second teams, respectively. The Wildcats finished 19-10 and reached the quarterfinals of the City Division II tournament.

REUNIONS

- ▣ We're asked constantly about whether reunions of specific classes are happening. If they aren't listed below, we don't know about them, but are happy to list the information as soon as supplied to us.

Formal reunions and informal get-togethers get organized because [one person](#) decides it should happen and finds other classmates who feel the same way. Just decide that you're going to make it happen . . .

- ▣ Upcoming reunions that we know about include:

- June 25, 2016: CLASS OF WINTER 1961 (*New Yorkers*)
At Rancho Park, Los Angeles
Information: **Joan Kline Redlich** (jred4444@aol.com) or call (310) 441-0410.
- July 9, 2016: CLASS OF 1976
At the Marina City Club, Marina del Rey
Information: **Leslie Messer Ward** (lmward421@icloud.com)
Reservations and tickets: The Reunion Committee, at (661) 259-5999 or www.reunioncommittee.com
- October 1, 2016: CLASS OF 1986
At the Marina del Rey Marriott, Marina del Rey
Information: www.unihigh1986reunion.com or contact **Kathleen**

Cohen (kathleencohen@mac.com) or **Beth Goldfarb** (bethgoldfarb@gmail.com).

Reservations and tickets: For tickets, please visit <https://mdnproductions.webconnex.com/unireunion1986>

- October 15, 2016: CLASS OF 1954 (*Capris*)
At the 3-Thirty-3 Waterfront restaurant, Newport Beach
Information: Erin Boomer (boomererin@gmail.com)

Please send details of any and all reunions, meetings or informal get-togethers to Connect@UHEF.org for inclusion in future issues.

▣ ***Classes of 1991 or 1996, are you holding 25 and 20-year reunions in 2016?***

If you're from one of these classes, the Foundation can provide some help in locating classmates, if we have them as part of our database of 14,000+ addresses (online and postal). If you're out there and want to know more, contact UHEF Co-President **Ivan Finkle** '50 via Connect@UHEF.org right away!

*If your class maintains a [Web site](#) or [Facebook page](#),
please send the address to Connect@UHEF.org
and we'll add it to this list!*

Class of Summer 1966: Delphians

- *On Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1092330424115492/>
- *For questions, please contact Joyce Rangen at* joyce.rangen@gmail.com

Class of 1965: Artesians & Peleas

- <http://uni65.com> or <https://unihi65.wordpress.com>
- *To join the Class Facebook page, send an e-mail to* UniHi65@gmail.com

Class of Winter 1961: New Yorkers

- <http://www.unihiw61.com>

UNI HI EDUCATION FOUNDATION NEWS

- ▣ The Uni Hi Education Foundation exists to raise money to support the instructional programming at University High School. A new LAUSD policy allows *on-campus signage* to be available to recognize donations which assist the educational program. Interested for yourself or your company? Sent us a note and we'll help to get the ball rolling: Connect@UHEF.org.
- ▣ Contribute to Uni by linking your purchases on Amazon.com or at Ralphs to their

contribution programs!

- **Amazon.com:** Your purchases on **Amazon.com** can help Uni! Just go to the UHEF.org "[Donate Now](#)" page, scroll down and **click on the Amazon logo** to go to Amazon.com and your purchase will be credited toward rebates which go to support the school!
- **Ralphs:** Use your **Ralphs Rewards Card**. Via its Community Contribution program, from 1-4% of monthly purchases made by members is sent to Uni, but by designating the school by linking it to your Rewards Card.

Have your card in hand (you'll need the number on the back), go to the Ralphs [Community Contribution page](#) and either **register** or **sign in** (Questions answered [here](#)); Uni's code for the Ralphs program is **93275**.

- ▣ The Foundation, created by committed Uni administrators, alumni and parents in 1985, has raised more than \$1 million to support Uni's mission of educational excellence, and to supplement the instructional budget in these lean times. You can donate to the cause by [clicking here!](#)

UNI ALUMNI NOTEBOOK

- ▣ We have received a number of inquiries about how one can obtain a copy of an old diploma or a proof of graduation. We have the answers (we think):
 - If you graduated within the past 10 years, call the Registrar's Office at Uni directly, and they can help you. Uni's telephone number is (310) 914-3500.
 - If you graduated before 2006, here's the link to the LAUSD Web page which includes instructions on how to obtain your records: <http://achieve.lausd.net/transcripts>. Please read the requirements carefully!
- ▣ An urgent request from **Grace Seegall** '56 (cheluthy@gmail.com):

*"I have been trying to find the only friend I had at Uni High: Cambodians, Winter of '56. **Shirlee Bookman** opened her heart and helped me adjust as I was a foreigner from South America trying to adjust to America. I truly believe that without her friendship at that time I never would have become the successful individual that I have become. Being that I am rather ill, not withstanding not knowing how long I still have to find my friend, I was hoping you could lend a hand."*

Unfortunately, Grace, we do not have contact information for Shirlee, but we are publishing your request here in hopes that one of your classmates might be able to help, and contact you directly. Neither the school nor the UHEF have comprehensive contact lists for Uni students, faculty or staff.

SIXTH PERIOD BELL

- ▣ From its opening in the 1924-25 academic year, Harding-then-University High School had cheerleaders for its sports teams . . . male cheerleaders!

That was common for the time and lasted well past World War II. But beginning in the 1954-55 academic year, three female cheerleaders joined with three male counterparts to form the first co-ed cheer squad in Uni history.

Who were Uni's female cheerleader pioneers? Here's to **Julie Pressman**, **Karen Peckter** and **Ingrid Nelsen**, the first of many girls to wear the Uni cheerleading uniforms in the decades to come.

*Contribute your comments, ideas and news to the **Warriors & Wildcats Report!***

Send a note to Connect@UHEF.org !

*The **Warriors & Wildcats Report** is published by the Uni Hi Education Foundation, and is edited by Rich Perelman '74. Copyright 2016 by the Uni Hi Education Foundation; all rights reserved, but sharing with classmates, family and friends is encouraged.*

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