



Warriors & Wildcats Report

No. 29 • December 15, 2015

Thanks to so many readers who have shared comments, questions and suggestions with us! Your contributions make this report better, so don't be shy and send us a note at Connect@UHEF.org.

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UHEF 2015-16 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr. 16	Spring Clean-Up Day	<u>Volunteer opportunity</u>
Apr. 26-29	“Disney’s High School Musical”	Stivelman Theater
May tba	Unveiling of naming plaques for Richard Kampmann Stadium and Mel Patton Track	On campus
May tba	All-Classes Picnic & Car Show	On campus

UNI YEARBOOKS COMING TO UHEF.ORG BEGINNING IN JANUARY, 2016

- ▣ There have been several constants over the more than 90 years of University High School, such as the Administration Building, the spring, and the school yearbook.

You have to visit Uni to see the campus and the spring, But soon, you'll be able to enjoy the yearbooks without leaving home!

The Uni Hi Education Foundation has undertaken, in concert with the school, the task of having all of the available yearbooks digitized and made available online, on the UHEF.org site.

Eight years were selected for the initial test, including 1924 (as Wilson Junior High School, on what became the Harding and Uni site!), 1925, 1926, 1927, 1938, 1942 (including an A10 student named **Norma Baker**, later Marilyn Monroe), 1966 and 1967.

These yearbooks will be available online beginning sometime in January 2016. Online viewing of all of the pages will be free, and viewers will be able to download a PDF version of any year desired for a modest fee. Funds collected from this project will be used to support it, as there are more than 90 total yearbooks to be scanned, paginated and posted for use by UHEF.com visitors.

Yearbooks will generally be posted from the older years forward, owing to their aging condition. But individuals or classes who wish to “jump the line” will be able to do so upon request by pre-payment of the cost of digitizing and presenting their yearbook.

Look for more information in coming issues about the timing and details of this unique presentation of Uni’s history!

SPARKLING SUCCESS FOR “YOU’RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN”

- ▣ Chalk up another success for the Uni Theatre Arts team, led by **Ronnie Sperling** ‘76, in its latest production of “You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown” on December 3-5.

The best review came from **Mia Villasenor** in Uni’s [Wildcat](#) newspaper, including:

*“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” follows an ordinary day in the life of its titular character, played by **Andy Santiago**, as he tries to become a good person. Santiago, who previously starred in Uni’s production of “Working,” easily captured the pessimistic and eager nature of Charlie Brown. One particular highlight of the show included Charlie Brown trying (and predictably failing) to fly his kite and allowed Santiago to boast his singing skills.*

Since “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” is an ensemble musical, many other characters besides Charlie Brown received ample time under the spotlight. The entire cast shined on stage and kept the laughs coming with each actor’s natural comedic timing.

*“Into the Woods” alumnus **Veraliz Cornett** particularly owned the stage as the bossy and aggressive Lucy. From her obsession with becoming a queen to her survey on her level of crabbiness, Cornett stood out and took charge just as Lucy should.*

***Ayanna Jimenez** played the iconic character Snoopy. The scenes in the play with Jimenez on Snoopy’s doghouse were always great fun. She led a phenomenal group number about Snoopy’s love of supertime and did great work with portraying the slightly cynical and very imaginative dog of Charlie Brown.*

***Aaron Samos**, who played the Beethoven-loving Schroeder, also earned a lot of laughs during*

his scenes with Cornett at the piano and as the glee club conductor. Some of his subtlest moments brought a lot of humor to the play, such as him doing the whip during a group dance scene.

***Sarai Benitez**, who played Charlie Brown's sister Sally, did a great job with the song that won Kristin Chenoweth her Tony for the same role ("My New Philosophy") and had many great one-liners.*

*The performer who probably received the most laughs was **Ryan McNeil**, who played Lucy's little brother Linus. McNeil, another "Into the Woods" alumnus, cracked many in the audience up when he sang and danced about his beloved blanket ("My Blanket and Me").*

***Claire Hafteck** played probably the cutest character: Woodstock, a yellow bird and a friend to Snoopy. Her dancing during the quick intermission scenes and her random chirpings brought so much lightness and energy to the stage.*

Sperling reflected on the show and the maturation of the Theatre Arts program at Uni:

"Personally, I think with this production of Charlie Brown our Theatre Company is really starting to come together nicely at Uni.

"From the LIVE music to the cast getting it right on the mark. To boot, the sets and costumes were a comic strip come to life. There was one day during our Easter Vacation Break, that the entire cast and crew showed up to rehearse, build, and paint. So inspiring to watch these young people. It was magic time. Everyone working so hard ... together. It was like an old Summer Stock company. Real theatre.

"Now, we have just received [a glowing full page review](#) in the school paper. I'm looking forward to more school involvement. That includes our Staff, Faculty, and Parents. We NEED you! I know with High School Musical it's going to be an exciting time to be at UNI."

ON CAMPUS

- ▣ Did you know that Uni once again has its own Speech & Debate Team? Coach **Ethan Keogh** (ethankeogh@gmail.com) shared this update:

"As the coach of Uni Speech Team, it is a great pleasure to share with you my first Fall report. I will start by saying there has been tremendous support for this program from the school, from the [Uni Hi] Education Foundation, and from the community, as well as the parents and students. It's exciting to be a part of this, and witness something thrilling come alive. In just about two months of work, Uni does indeed have a team, with currently ten students on the roster. I'm also happy to report that Uni High School competed in its first tournament of the 21st Century!

*"On November 21st, we completed at the Varsity Tournament at South High School in Torrance. We had three club members compete: **Ari Zapata**, **Aaron Rovinsky**, and*

Hannah Grace Smith. All three of our brave front-runners exceeded expectations, each receiving at least one score of ‘Excellent.’ Further, Hannah received a *First Place* trophy in Oratorical Interpretation for her take on the ‘Ellen DeGeneres Graduation Speech at Tulane University.’

“Coming out of our first tournament, the team is excited about competing again sooner rather than later. I hope that we have more members will join us and get to experience the thrill of competition and the lessons it contains.

“All in all, I encouraged by the interest & talent our team has displayed and grateful for your part in it. Together we are putting Uni back onto the Speech & Debate map for the first time since the 1970s. Keeping the lines of communication open is important to the success of this undertaking. I welcome any questions or suggestions you might have.”

The Speech & Debate schedule is also expected to include:

Dec. 19	Fullerton Winter Classic Invitational	@ Cal State Fullerton
Jan. 30	Varsity Individual Events Open	@ to be announced
Feb. 19-20	CaHSSA State Individual Events Qualifier	@ Torrance High School
Apr. 15-17	California High School Speech Assn. (CaHSSA) State Championships	@ to be announced (in Area 1)

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

- Boys/Basketball 8-4 overall

Under the direction of **Steve Ackerman**, the Wildcats have been busy with tournament play and are 8-4 heading into the holiday break. Junior wing **Jude Agbasi** has been Uni’s best performer, averaging 19.3 points a game and 9.0 rebounds, while shooting 58% from the floor. He had a season-high 30 points in the loss vs. Crossroads and 29 in the championship game of the Uni Tournament vs. Bernstein. No wonder he wears jersey no. 1!

Junior guard **Rudy Eugenio** leads the team in assists at 3.5 per game, and scores 9.4 points per game, second-best on the team.

Uni’s 2015-16 schedule:

Nov. 23	Wilson	Won, 62-53	El Monte Tournament
Nov. 25	Hoover	Won, 87-56	El Monte Tournament
Nov. 27	Workman	Won, 68-52	El Monte Tournament
Nov. 28	St. John Bosco	Lost, 68-52	El Monte Tournament
Nov. 30	Crossroads	Lost, 81-74	St. Monica Tournament
Dec. 01	La Salle	Lost, 67-51	St. Monica Tournament
Dec. 02	Santa Monica	Lost, 62-19	St. Monica Tournament
Dec. 03	St. Monica	Won, 51-47	St. Monica Tournament
Dec. 07	New Designs University Park	Won, 100-41	Jim Nakabara Classic @ Uni
Dec. 09	Marshall	Won, 60-39	Jim Nakabara Classic @ Uni
Dec. 10	Buckley	Won, 54-27	Jim Nakabara Classic @ Uni

Dec.	11	Bernstein	Won, 83-73	Jim Nakabara Classic @ Uni
Jan.	02	Saugus	5:00 p.m.	Clash at the Canyons Showcase
Jan.	04	North Hollywood	7:00 p.m.	JFK Cougar Classic
Jan.	05	Van Nuys	7:00 p.m.	JFK Cougar Classic
Jan.	06	Gardena	7:00 p.m.	JFK Cougar Classic
Jan.	07	Verdugo Hills	7:00 p.m.	JFK Cougar Classic
Jan.	11	Venice	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	13	Palisades	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	15	@ Fairfax	6:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	18	tbd		Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Showcase
Jan.	20	@ Westchester	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	22	Hamilton	4:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	25	@ L.A. CES	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	29	@ Venice	6:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	01	@ Palisades	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	03	Fairfax	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	05	Westchester	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	10	L.A. CES	5:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	12	Hamilton	tbd	(Western League Game)

- Boys/Soccer 1-3 overall (0-1 Western League)

Uni has lost three of its first four matches, but each by only one goal. The Uni schedule (*=Western League match):

Dec.	02	@ Van Nuys	Lost, 2-1	Jan.	22	Venice	2:30 p.m.
Dec.	04	San Pedro	Lost, 1-0	Jan.	25	@ L.A. CES	2:30 p.m.
Dec.	07	Los Angeles	Won, 4-1	Jan.	29	@ Venice	2:30 p.m.
Dec.	09	L.A. CES*	Lost, 2-1	Feb.	03	Palisades	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	11	@ Palisades	5:00 p.m.	Feb.	05	@ Hamilton	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	13	Hamilton	2:30 p.m.	Feb.	10	@ Westchester	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	20	@ Fairfax	2:30 p.m.	Feb.	12	Fairfax	2:30 p.m.

- Girls/Basketball 3-2 overall

The Wildcat girls were off to a nice 3-1 start before a long hiatus and a 37-21 home loss to Taft on December 14. We'd love to provide more highlights, but no game statistics are available from any of Uni's games played so far.

Uni's 2015-16 schedule:

Nov.	23	King/Drew	Won, 48-27	Carson Classic
Nov.	24	Compton	Won, 52-27	Carson Classic
Nov.	27	South Gate	Won, 37-34	Carson Classic
Nov.	28	Carson	Lost, 51-22	Carson Classic
Dec.	14	Taft	Lost, 37-21	
Dec.	18	@Cleveland	4:00 p.m.	
Jan.	4-9	tbd		Fairfax City Classic
Jan.	11	@ Venice	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	13	@ Palisades	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	15	Fairfax	5:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	16	Marlborough	4:30 p.m.	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Showcase
Jan.	20	Westchester	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	22	Hamilton	5:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Jan.	25	L.A. CES	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)

Jan.	29	Venice	5:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	01	Palisades	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	03	@ Fairfax	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	05	@ Westchester	5:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	10	@ L.A. CES	4:30 p.m.	(Western League Game)
Feb.	12	Hamilton	5:00 p.m.	(Western League Game)

- Girls/Soccer 0-1-1 overall (0-1 Western League)

The Wildcats opened their season with a 2-2 draw against Van Nuys, with senior **Ashley Martinez** and soph **Sabrina Malinda** scoring the goals. The Uni schedule (*=Western League matches):

Dec.	02	Van Nuys	Tie, 2-2	Jan.	25	L.A. CES*	2:30 p.m.
Dec.	09	@ L.A. CES*	Lost, 2-0	Jan.	29	Venice*	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	11	Palisades*	5:00 p.m.	Feb.	03	@ Palisades*	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	13	@ Hamilton*	2:30 p.m.	Feb.	05	Hamilton*	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	20	Fairfax*	2:30 p.m.	Feb.	10	Westchester*	2:30 p.m.
Jan.	22	@ Venice*	2:30 p.m.	Feb.	12	@ Fairfax*	2:30 p.m.

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:

- April 16, 2016: CLASSES OF 1966
At the Marina City Club (*please note the change of date and venue*)
Information: **Neal Rein** (sabersafety@yahoo.com) and/or **Joyce (Gordon) Rangen** (joyce.rangen@gmail.com).
(Please [click here](#) for the event's Facebook page!)
- June 25, 2016: CLASS OF WINTER 1961 (*New Yorkers*)
At Rancho Park
Information: **Joan Kline Redlich** (jred4444@aol.com) or call (310) 441-0410.
- July 9, 2016: CLASS OF 1976
At the Marina City Club
Information: **Leslie Messer Ward** (lmward421@icloud.com)
Reservations and tickets: The Reunion Committee, at (661) 259-5999 or www.reunioncommittee.com

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

▣ **Gerry McClanahan** W '54 (Fantasians) writes:

"It would be fun to be able to see photos with name identification for each alumni and spouse from all of the reunions (Most of us know people from more than one class).

Maybe a Web site could be provided with a referral from the UHEF.org web site. Names are important. Since alumni sometimes look different after 40 or 50 years. Thanks for listening."

Good idea, Gerry, and one worth exploring in the future. The difficulty is that while many of the professionally-produced reunions have "Memory books" which usually include photos and names (some of which are correct, but some are not), the small get-togethers do not. For now, we're concentrating on digitizing the yearbooks (see page 1).

*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 1965: Artesians & Peleans

- <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.unihw61.com>

UNI HI EDUCATION FOUNDATION NEWS

If you're reading this and didn't get your own copy of the 20-page, 2015 Annual Newsletter, it's easy. Just let the Foundation know where you are! It's easy to join in: everyone who makes a donation of any amount is a full member for a year. [Click here now](#) to join us!

▣ 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.

▣ One of the easiest ways to donate to Uni is via the **Ralphs Rewards Card**. As part of its Community Contribution program, from 1-4% of monthly purchases made by members is sent

to Uni, but only if you designate the school by linking it to your Rewards Card.

Have your card handy (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**.

- ▣ Your purchases on **Amazon.com** can also 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 Uni!
- ▣ The Foundation, created by committed Uni administrators, alumni and parents in 1985, has raised more than \$800,000 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

- ▣ **Roger Peterson** S '47 (sbcrcpeterson@outlook.com) sent in a contribution along with happy news of his retirement:

"[I] will finally retire after 75 years on a payroll including the United States Air Force (37 years from Private to Major General), United Technologies (10 years), Swiss Bank Corporation (12 years) and finally SunSouth Bank (14 years)."

He notes that "Thanks to you wonderful taxpayers, [I] received military scholarships to UCLA (B.S.), University of Colorado (M.S.), Harvard and CalTech."

Congratulations to Roger. *So far as we know, Peterson and the late Paul Dettmer '73 are the only Uni grads to become generals in the U.S. military. Anyone know of any others?*

- ▣ **Alan W. DeSilva** '49 (desilva@umd.edu) writes:

"I graduated from UniHi in 1949, with the 'Centennials'. My brother Jack graduated the year before me, I think as a 'Saigon.' Does anyone remember the Naturalist Club, sponsored by Mr. Herbst?"

"He took a bunch of us to the Mohave Desert, where I collected a rattlesnake and brought it home, to my mother's horror. She immediately called Mr. Herbst to come and get it. I eventually earned my Ph.D. at Berkeley in physics, and taught physics at the University of Maryland. I'm now retired, living in Sandy Spring, Maryland in a Quaker retirement community."

- ▣ **Daniel Baizer** '68 (danjo794@sbcglobal.net) asks, "Is there any way that I can get a list of the graduates of '68?"

The short answer is "no," so far as Uni's own records are concerned. The school only

maintains records for the past 10 years. The best source is likely the upcoming posting of the Uni yearbooks (see page 1), although the '68 volume will be some time in coming.

- ▣ **Bill Imada** '75 wrote in with good news of his (1) election to the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) Board of Directors (more on Bill [here](#)) and (2) appointment by President Barack Obama to the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Bill was recently featured in a recent Orange County Register story on marketing to Asian Americans ([here](#)).

SIXTH PERIOD BELL

- ▣ We've had lots of requests for class names by decade. We previously ran the names from the 1950s, so with thanks to UHEF Co-President **Judy Wolfenstein**, here are the 1940s:

W '40: <i>Cadets</i>	S '40: <i>Atlanteans</i>	W '45: <i>Cossacks</i>	S '45: <i>Hawaiians</i>
W '41: <i>Mohicans</i>	S '41: <i>Buccaneers</i>	W '46: <i>Cariocas</i>	S '46: <i>Carousels</i>
W '42: <i>Cavaliers</i>	S '42: <i>Marines</i>	W '47: <i>Continental</i> s	S '47: <i>Khalifs</i>
W '43: <i>Lancers</i>	S '43: <i>Yanks</i>	W '48: <i>Reveliers</i>	S '48: <i>Tartans</i>
W '44: <i>Corsairs</i>	S '44: <i>Arabians</i>	W '49: <i>Saigons</i>	S '49: <i>Centennials</i>

Look for more class names in each issue!

*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.*

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