



Warriors & Wildcats Report

No. 42 • June 1, 2016

Happy Prom and Reunion 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!

REUNIONS IN JUNE FOR THE CLASSES OF 1956, 1961 AND 2006

▣ As the Class of 2016 completes its commencement exercises in Kampmann Stadium on June 10, three Uni classes will be gathering once again in June to remember their time on campus.

- **June 4: Class of Summer 1956**

The Cambodians (!) will gather once more, at The Beach Club in Santa Monica. For information, please contact **Carolyn Willis Vena** (carolynpaints@earthlink.net) or (503) 861-2136; or **Joel & Jacki Woolf** (jackiwlax@aol.com) or (310) 536-4000; or **Dick Wollmer** (RichardWollmer@csulb.edu) or (714) 536-7685.

- **June 4: Class of 2006**

The ten-year reunion of the Class of 2006 has just been announced, to be held on Saturday, June 4. It will be held not far from campus at Q's Billiards Lounge (11835 Wilshire Blvd.) at 7:00 p.m. **Alexia Valencia** is coordinating; classmates are encouraged to check out the class Facebook page for more details.

- **June 25: Class of Winter 1961**

The New Yorkers are set for a day at Rancho Park! For more information, please contact **Joan Kline Redlich** (jred4444@aol.com) or call (310) 441-0410.

In addition, the now-annual reunion of the Class of 1954 is set for October 15. The Capris had such a wonderful time at the 60-year affair in 2014 that they have made it a yearly affair.

The 62-year reunion - to include a lot of 80th birthday celebrations - is now set for Saturday, October 15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The site will be the 3-Thirty-3 Waterfront restaurant in Newport Beach (333 Bayside Drive).

Lunch will be from an extensive menu, and beverages and food for the day need to reach \$35 plus tax and tip. Thanks to a generous donation from a classmate, dessert will be provided!

"It's been 62 years since we graduated," noted reunion coordinator **Erin Boomer**. "That's lots of catching up to do and many memories to share." RSVPs are requested by October 5 to boomererin@gmail.com.

What about a 25-year gathering, asks alumna **Kristi Hester** (polarbear297@msn.com): "Is there a reunion in the works for the Class of 1991? If so, how do I get information?" We haven't seen anything about a '91 reunion yet, but we'll post it here as soon as we do.

UHEF ANNOUNCES FIVE RECIPIENTS OF ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- ▣ One of the most important benefits of giving to the Uni Hi Education Foundation is seeing your funds at work to help young people succeed. Each year, the UHEF makes direct contributions to deserving students through three scholarship awards:

- ***Outstanding Community Service Award:***

This is a \$1,000 cash award, normally offered to one winner. For 2016, however, the seven submitted essays documented such strong service from three entrants that two full scholarships and a \$500 Honorable Mention award were made.

The two recipients of the full awards were seniors **Rosa Devora Roman** (headed to Franklin & Marshall College) and **Alexandra Strong** (headed to Tufts University). Roman logged as astonishing 1,012 hours of service across all four years at Uni, with nearly 549 hours at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center Teen Volunteer Program. She wrote of her experiences there, "Volunteering at the hospital gives me great satisfaction because I end my shift knowing that I've changed someone's day. ... I feel hopeful after visiting patients because after we've spent time together, they seem to replace their depression with optimism."

Strong was also involved at Cedars-Sinai, with the Teen Line volunteer program that gives young people in crisis a place to call for guidance and support. Over the last three years, she has contributed more than 400 hours, noting "Volunteering at Teen Line ... has taught me valuable life skills: empathy, understanding, and the ability to talk to people from all walks of life. ... Life is a delicate thing and it's important to treat it appropriately."

Honorable Mention went to **Reina Flores** (going to UCLA), who was also part of the Cedars Teen Volunteer Program and became a member of the program's Teen Advisory Board during her three years of service.

- ***Sharon Mednick Award:***

Starting with a gift of \$10,000 from the estate of the late **Sharon Mednick**, a Uni college counselor from 1995-2003, a fund was created to help one student annually who demonstrates an interest in pursuing a career in education. Because of ongoing support of this UHEF program, the fund has grown and awards \$1,000 each year.

The 2016 Mednick Award was given to **Jessica Sanchez**, who will attend U.C. Davis. She made a significant impact as a teacher and helper through the PrimeTime Sports program, designed to help adolescents with special needs participate in mainstream high school sports. Of course, the impact on Sanchez was just as great, as she wrote, "Joining PrimeTime helps me prove to myself that I am a leader and that I could make a difference in the lives of the people I touched."

- ***Jack Moskowitz Award:***

The UHEF was co-founded in 1985 by then-Uni principal **Jack Moskowitz** to help remediate the impact of budget cuts to the school district in the aftermath of the passage of California Proposition 13. The annual award of \$1,000 – begun in 2015 – is given to a student selected by the Uni principal. For 2016, principal **Eric Davidson** selected **Mary Qualls**, describing her "as the student who brings the spirit and qualities that are the best of Uni pride. She's a wonderful part of the Uni family."

All of these awards were announced at the Senior Class awards ceremony on May 25. In addition, an individual scholarship award was made beginning in 1998 by alumna **Thelma W. Culverson** '56, who awards a four-year scholarship to UCLA based on an essay and interviews by a panel of UCLA faculty and administrators. Reina Flores (also honored above) was selected and is the 18th recipient of the Culverson Scholarship winner.

REMEMBERING THE DAYS OF CAVANAUGH, PATTON & KAMPMANN

- ▣ Nearly 150 former coaches, teachers, administrators and students crowded into Uni's South Gym on May 15 to celebrate the unveiling of plaques commemorating the naming of Kampmann Stadium, Patton Track and Cavanaugh Field.

The event drew the attention of *Los Angeles Times* prep editor Eric Sondheimer, who attended and included [a review online](#).

What came through most during the 90-minute program was the impact that each of the three men had during their time at Uni.

Angus Cavanaugh: 1924-35

Current Uni Principal **Eric Davidson** gave a marvelous address that provided an insight into the first principal of Harding High School, later to become Uni. In pertinent part:

"The most important thing that Angus Cavanaugh did during his tenure at this school was to establish the Westwood Village Rotary Club. I don't know if you guys know that, but that's one of the strongest organizations we have: Rotarians.

"If you know what Rotarians have done throughout their history, then you understand the kind of character that Angus was. And if you don't know what Rotarians believe, you ask them four questions. You ask them:

"Is this fair?

"Is it the truth?

"Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

"And then lastly, will this be beneficial to everyone?

"I believe it is appropriate to compare the past to the present, because as natural as [school] turf was then, over the years it is now artificial in its composition. But it remains consistent in its purpose. ...

"The times are different. So are the students. The students we have today are very, very much different than the students that are sitting in this auditorium right now. But the values and the ethics that were used by Mr. Cavanaugh back in the day are very similar to the same values and ethics that I use today with the same students, the same group of students – that he would have been doing the same thing I would be.

"So at the end, it's the pursuit of truth, fairness, goodwill, better friendships and common benefit to all that is enough to inspire us all to be like Angus Cavanaugh. And this field is dedicated in his honor. Thank you so much."

Mel Patton: 1941-43

Most sports fans know who Usain Bolt is, the great Jamaican sprinter who won three gold medals in the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games. [Patton biographer](#) **Larry Booth** explained how impressive Patton's achievements were in his era.

"Mel is in the Track and Field Hall of Fame. He won two Olympic gold medals. He never lost in high school. His high school records lasted for decades in both the 100 and 220. He never lost in college, winning five individual national championships. Remarkably, he never once false started. He was the no. 1 sprinter in the world six times. He set seven world records.

"In 1948, just before the Olympics the cover of the two big national magazines, Time and Life, were full-size pictures of Mel Patton. He was the face of the Olympic team ... I have in my hands, original, 70-year-old editions of both.

"He broke Jesse Owens' world records and Jesse's coach said Mel was better than Jesse. Dean

Cromwell, the most famous track coach of all time, said Mel was by far the fastest human of all time.

"Back in the day, Patton ran on cinder tracks which were uneven and hard as a brick. Mel would have thrived and run even faster on an artificial track like the new Mel Patton Track at Uni. At 6-feet and 147 pounds, he was rail thin. With today's weight training, on this track, there is no one in history who would have gone faster."

Patton's Uni record of 9.8 seconds in the 100-yard dash stood for 32 years until Kampmann-coach **David Duffy** ran 9.7 in 1974. And Duffy was at the luncheon and took a bow as the generational tie between the great Patton and his coach, **Jim Pursell**, and the Kampmann era.

Dick Kampmann: 1960-85

Four of Kampmann's former runners were on hand to salute him, across the 25 years of his coaching career as Uni. **Steve Baum**, who was the 1968 Los Angeles City cross-country champion, gave this tribute:

"When I started in 10th-grade cross country, I didn't know what I was doing, but I loved it and we went to the City championships – we were [in the] 10th grade [race] – and I said, 'I want to win. I want to win that race.' And because of you [looking to Coach Kampmann], I did.

"Two years and change of working my butt off, completely inspired – just wanting to – believing in myself, because you did. So, thank you.

"I arrived here as a tall, skinny 10th grader. I was dreaming of basketball glory, until one game against Crenshaw made me realize that was never going to happen. It was pretty crushing, but I loved to run, so I had done a pretty good 600 [yards] at Emerson, and my P.E. teacher was John Kampmann [Coach K's younger brother]. So one day after signing up for cross country, I knew I had found my home.

"But the late '60s were a very turbulent time. The world was upside down and the changes that came with being 14 or 15 years old at that time – changes [that] are pretty universal regardless of what's going on – in my case, being a virtual only child, kind of an outsider by nature, I needed to be part of something. And cross country was perfect, and I suspect a lot of people here were cross-country athletes.

"It's a team sport. Everyone undergoes the same ordeal, confronting their limitations. Beyond that, being part of Uni cross country was being part of a winning team, a winning tradition, among the City's best every year. And that success was not accidental or due to an abundance of talent, but our shared desire to become the athlete and the person that Coach K knew we could be.

"And that demanded a huge commitment, plenty of pain, but we loved it. We rooted each other on, wanting to please the man who never neglected to acknowledge our accomplishments, no matter how big or small.

KAMPMANN STADIUM



Richard "Dick" Kampmann
"Coach K"

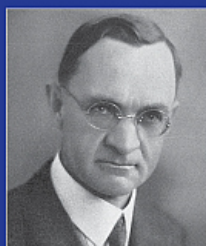
University High School, 1960-85

Beloved teacher and the most successful coach in Uni history. His teams won eight All-City Championships in Cross Country (7: 1974, 1975 and 1980 varsity boys; 1981 junior varsity boys; 1977 10th grade boys; 1979 and 1985 girls) and Track & Field (1: 1970 boys), 24 All-City individual titles, 77 Western League team championships, 252 Western League individual titles and 875 dual meet victories. Taught his students and athletes how to win, in competition and in life. Renovated Uni field and track facility named in his honor in 2015.

University High School

Commemorated May 15, 2016

CAVANAUGH FIELD



Angus Cavanaugh
Principal

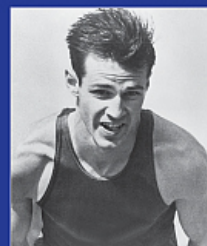
Harding/University High School, 1924-35

Inaugural principal at Warren G. Harding High School in the fall of 1924, later to become University High School in July, 1929 in honor of the move by UCLA from downtown to Westwood. In 1925, he wrote of the new school's students: "The boys and girls here today are Pioneers in the westward growth of a great city and in the establishing of a new school. The opportunity is yours to leave to the boys and girls who follow, a heritage worthy of you." In gratitude for his leadership, the Uni football field was named in his honor.

University High School

Commemorated May 15, 2016

PATTON TRACK



Mel Patton

"The World's Fastest Man"

University High School, 1941-43

Greatest athlete in University High School history. He set school records under Coach Jim Pursell in the 100-yard (9.8) and 220-yard (21.5) dashes that lasted 32 and 34 years. A five-time NCAA champion at USC, "Pell Mel" went on to set world records in both the 100 and 220 from 1947-49 and won gold medals in the 200 m and 4x100 m at the 1948 Olympic Games in London, the only gold medals ever won by a Uni athlete. Later became a collegiate coach and had a long career in the electronics industry before passing away in 2014 at the age of 89.

University High School

Commemorated May 15, 2016

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL



FIELD & TRACK NAMING CAMPAIGN 2015-16

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“He wasn't particularly warm or fuzzy. During my day, he was still influenced by the kind of hard-ass, drill-sergeant school of motivation. It really wasn't until the next year, the City championship track team of 1970 – with those wild, un-tameable cast of characters – that he began to let his hair down and change with the times.

“But even then, though he was tough and demanding, he was never cruel, never demeaning. He expected a lot, and gave more. And being on his team was being part of a family – which is obvious here today – but was harder to realize at a time when family was something that many of us longed to escape.

“For me, the son of a father for whom nothing was ever good enough, Coach provided the acceptance and the inspiration I needed so desperately to accomplish what I wanted. Life isn't easy as we all know, but I can think of no other human being who help prepare me for the challenges that lay ahead than this man, whose decency, patience, sense of fairness and unflagging commitment – not to mention a very cool car [Coach's famous '57 Thunderbird] – inspired me for the first time in my life to believe in myself ... even though I would never be a basketball star.”

There was a lot to take in at the event, and with thanks to photographers **Jan Fambro** and **Ivan Finkle** '50, here's a look at the event in pictures: [click here](#).

A DVD of the event, including video tributes from attendees, as well as the full program, will be available in the coming weeks. Please look for order information on UHEF.org.

NEED A SPECIAL UNI GIFT?

- ▣ In the aftermath of the All-Classes Picnic & Car Show, we again received a terrific question we get from time to time:

“My brother and I graduated from Uni High. I want to get him a Uni T-shirt, jersey, baseball cap for a 'big' birthday. Is there a Student Store where I can purchase something like this?”

Answer: Yes!

The only place to get authentic Uni merchandise is on-campus at the Student Store, located in the Administration Building. The entrance is (still) at the corner of Texas & Westgate Avenues in west Los Angeles.

You'll need to go to the main entrance and get an entry pass and directions to the store. Uni Finance Manager **Chanel James** notes that visitors “can come by between the hours of 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.” on all regular school days. She added that “Unfortunately, we are not able to ship items out.”

There is a large variety of items available: sweatshirts, T-shirts, shirts and shorts for physical education classes, caps, scarves, bags, lanyards and more. But you'll have to go and check these items out for yourself; no online orders!

ON CAMPUS

- ▣ Congratulations to two Uni student filmmakers honored by KLCS-TV – the Los Angeles-area Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) operated by the L.A. Unified School District – for their winning entry for the 2016 Video in the Classroom Awards!

KLCS's producer **Robert Sharp** announced the award in a message to Uni journalism supervisor **Alexandria Lau**:

“Congratulations being a winner in the 2016 Video in the Classroom Awards! We know that a lot of work went into your projects. Your winning entry is:

“School Information/Special Program Category: ‘From Italy to LA’

“We would like to invited you to come to the KLCS-TV studios and be interviewed about your experience producing classroom videos. The interview will become a part of the 2016 Video in the Classroom Awards broadcast.”

Lau explained further that the award was for the video students **Sabrina Cole** and **Nehla Nafsain** – from her fall-semester West L.A. film class – made about foreign exchange student **Ludovico Cavallaro**. Wow!

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

- Boys/Golf

After winning the Western League individual title, senior **Kevin Tenema** finished in a tie for 13th place (80) in the Los Angeles City Section championships at Griffith Park and qualified for the SoCal Regionals. Freshman **Anuv Gupta** completed an excellent season in 36th place (91) and soph **Lawrence Kim** shot 94 to finish 38th.

Tenema finished his season by shooting 83 (+11) and tying for 103rd in the SoCal Regional Golf Tournament.

- Swimming

Though Uni did not place any swimmers into the championship finals in the City meet, it did score in the some of the consolation finals. The boys finished 17th with 11 points, while the girls scored 12 points, good for 19th place.

- Track & Field

In the All-City finals held at Birmingham High School, Uni's girls scored one point to tie for 21st place, while the boys did not score in the varsity meet. Finalists and placings:

Boys/Varsity:

800 m	7.	Matthew Freeman	(Sr)	2:01.73
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4x800 m	10.	Uni		8:45.96
High Jump	8. (tie)	Charles Adams	(Sr)	5-8
<i>Boys/Frosh-Soph:</i>				
110 m Hurdles	3.	Hassan Harris	(So)	16.93
110 m Hurdles	5.	Kareem Miles	(So)	17.13
High Jump	3.	Kareem Miles	(So)	5-6
Long Jump	8.	Kareem Miles	(So)	18-0 wind-aided
<i>Girls/Varsity:</i>				
800 m	12.	Kaylan Tanner	(Sr)	2:30.47
1,600 m	8.	Stephani Cruz	(So)	5:27.28
4x100 m		did not finish		
4x400 m	7.	Uni		4:11.25
4x800 m	8.	Uni		11:07.39
Long Jump	6.	Cach'e Cummings	(So)	15-5 1/4 wind-aided
<i>Girls/Frosh-Soph:</i>				
100 m Hurdles	3.	Mari Drake	(So)	17.35
4x100 m	5.	Uni		52.79
4x400 m	5.	Uni		4:30.73

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 4, 2016: CLASS OF SUMMER 1956 (*Cambodians*)
At The Beach Club, Santa Monica
Information: **Carolyn Willis Vena** (carolynpaints@earthlink.net) or (503) 861-2136, or **Joel & Jacki Woolf** (jackiwlax@aol.com) or (310) 536-4000, or **Dick Wollmer** (RichardWollmer@csulb.edu) or (714) 536-7685.
- June 4, 2016: CLASS OF 2006
At Q's Billiards Lounge, Los Angeles
Information: Please refer to the class Facebook page.
- 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 1965: Artesians & Peleans

- <http://uni65.com> or <https://unihigh65.wordpress.com>
- To join the Class Facebook page, send an e-mail to UniHi65@gmail.com

Class of Winter 1961: New Yorkers

- <http://www.unihigh61.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!

- ▣ Sad news from **Annemarie Hopkins** (Ahopkins@csusb.edu):

*"I just wanted to let you know that my beloved mother, **Lois C. McDonnell** (class of 1945) passed away August 15, 2015. She loved her Uni High and spoke of it my entire life. Her maiden name was Lois Crosby.*

"I received a post card about [the All-Classes Picnic & Car Show] and thought I'd email you to let you know. Thank you for giving her a lifetime of memories. She still saw her friends from Uni High until the end."

Our condolences to the family, friends and loved ones of all of the Warriors and Wildcats who have passed.

- ▣ **Katrina Kuizenga-Bergen** '71 (katrina.brgn@gmail.com) asks: "Can you please send me the contact information for my old friend, **Joan Matsumoto**, class of 1971?"

Katrina, we wish it was that simple! Unfortunately, neither Uni nor the UHEF maintain current contact information for the thousands of Uni graduates. However, one of our readers may be able to help you, and we urge them to do so!

SIXTH PERIOD BELL

- ▣ For more than four decades, the female side of the Southern California surf culture was epitomized in the story of "Gidget." In fact, the story of [*Gidget*](#) – in print and on the silver screen – is all about Uni!

Gidget, a teenage girl who loves to surf, was written about **Kathy Kohner** '58, first in the 1957 novel, *Gidget, The Little Girl With Big Ideas*. The author was none other than her father, well-known screenwriter Frederick Kohner, who went on to write eight "Gidget" novels in all.

The character was enormously popular, not only in books, but was made into a motion picture for the first time in 1959, starring another Uni alum, [*Sandra Dee*](#) (1942-2005; class of '59?).

In fact, the Gidget character has been one of the most durable surf icons ever, appearing in feature films in 1959, 1961 and 1963, television series in 1965-66 (starring Sally Field) and 1986-88 and made-for-television moves in 1969, 1972 and 1975.

And there have been recent stage plays written from the original works, in 2000 and 2007. Pretty good for a youngster who said, "*All I did was surf a little and tell my story.*"

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

Send a note to Connect@UHEF.org !

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