



# Warriors & Wildcats Report

No. 65 • June 1, 2017

Almost graduation time at Uni! Hello 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](mailto: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!

## UHEF 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jun. 03-04	<i>Campus Gleaning</i>	Campus	8:30-11:59 a.m.
Jun. 03	<i>Nourish Your Senses seminar</i>	Campus	12:00-3:00 p.m.
Jun. 09	<i>Spring semester ends</i>	Campus	

## UHEF AWARDS FOUR SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- One of the most rewarding activities of the Uni Hi Education Foundation is to honor seniors with special scholarship awards made possible by alumni donations. This year, four seniors received UHEF recognition at a special on-campus awards ceremony on May 24:

### COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP:

*Given to a graduating senior in recognition of their outstanding service to the Los Angeles community:*

***Kate Im and Alyssa Suzukawa***

### SHARON MEDNICK SCHOLARSHIP:

*Begun by the late student counselor Sharon Mednick to honor and encourage a student planning a career in education:*

***Daisy Marcial***

**JACK MOSKOWITZ PRINCIPAL'S AWARD:**

*Named in honor of the late Uni Principal (1984-93) and awarded to a deserving senior selected by Uni Principal Eric Davidson:*

***Gia Gershon-Friedberg***

All four scholarship awards were for \$1,000. Although one Community Service award is normally given, the UHEF Board was so impressed by the service efforts of both Im and Suzukawa and voted for two awards to be given this year.

The awards were presented to Im and Suzukawa by Uni Class of 1976 alum, UHEF Board member and Uni's Director of Theatre Arts, **Ronnie Sperling**. Uni Principal Davidson awarded Gershon-Friedberg with her award. Unfortunately, Marcial could not attend the ceremony and received her award separately.

In future years, a new award in honor of **Coach Dick Kampmann** is planned, for which donations are now being received. If you would like to donate to this or any of the Uni scholarship awards fund, please [click here](#).

**UNI COACH AND TEACHER  
DUANE LARUE PASSES AT 81**

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- ▣ Longtime Uni teacher, coach and legend **Duane LaRue** [passed away](#) on May 8 at age 81.

Born in Los Angeles in 1935, he graduated from Washington High School and went to Pepperdine College – as it was known then – on a football scholarship. He came to Uni for the 1962-63 school year as a physical education teacher and the co-coach for football and coach for gymnastics.

He had a long and successful career at Uni, which included making the gymnastics program one of the best in the City, winning the 1970 All-City team championship. He continued at Uni for 32 academic years and finally retired as Physical Education department chairman and Athletic Director at the close of the 1993-94 academic year.

Did you know that during his early years of teaching he was also a part-time scout for the Los Angeles Rams?

LaRue was a popular figure on campus despite an outwardly gruff demeanor. He demanded effort and excellence at all levels and from everyone he worked with, but with a sense of humor – if you weren't too scared to let it come out over time – that endeared him to many. In 1987, he was presented with an Apple Award for teaching excellence by Los Angeles Mayor **Tom Bradley**.

Coach LaRue retired to his home in Saugus, but suffered a serious fall from the roof of his house in 2003 and suffered lasting injuries to his memory.

**Art Maeda '67** ([5thsettennis@gmail.com](mailto:5thsettennis@gmail.com)) wrote that “Coach La Rue was a patient coach even

*if you weren't that good of an athlete. We used to call him 'The Machine.' I was on his gymnastics team from 1964-1967. Coach LaRue was the only teacher I could remember. R.I.P. Coach we will remember you."*

**Gary Lynch**, W '68 ([garylynch0801@gmail.com](mailto:garyllynch0801@gmail.com)) wrote "I played football for Coach LaRue from '65-'67. I wasn't the best player for sure and I can remember several times when he yelled at me, really to encourage me to do better. I always respected him and he remains one of my favorite memories of my time at Uni."

**Wayman Ricks** ([wlricks@yahoo.com](mailto:wlricks@yahoo.com)) added: "I am of the class of '82 and will always remember his enthusiasm when I played football. When we played away games you would always here his call for the 'Rooter Bus!' I am so sorry to hear about his passing. Thank you coach LaRue for being a part of my high school experience. My condolences to your family."

## **JACOB ABRAHAM: FROM ERITREAN ROOTS TO THE IVY LEAGUE**

- ▣ Uni's mission is to educate, inspire and prepare young people to take the next step in their lives. Its success, as noted by the naming of University High School as one of the top-20 schools in the United States by the International Education Bureau of the nationally-recognized Walt Disney Motif Awards ([see our previous issue](#)), is further underscored by the remarkable story of senior **Jacob Abraham**.

His achievements were profiled in the [L.A. Unified School District's daily report on May 19](#), including:

*"[He enrolled] in University High's most rigorous college preparatory classes, including honors and Advanced Placement courses. He also played cello in the school orchestra and was selected to participate in University's Peer Mediation program. He ran track for the Uni Wildcats and was captain of the cross-country team.*

*"Thanks to his 4.3 grade-point average and varied extracurricular activities, Abraham was accepted to 13 universities, including Brown University, Princeton University, Northwestern University, the University of Pennsylvania, University of California Los Angeles and the University of Southern California.*

*"He has accepted the offer from Brown to enroll in its eight-year Program in Liberal Medical Education, which guarantees students admission to medical school after they complete their undergraduate degree. He plans to become a cardiologist or radiologist, fulfilling his lifelong dream of becoming a doctor.*

*"His acceptance to college also fulfills the dreams of his mother, an immigrant from the East African country of Eritrea."*

Isn't that what we all hope for for Uni's students? Congratulations to Jacob and the Class of 2017 Wildcats moving on to colleges across the nation.

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## UNI LIBRARY DONATIONS NOW UP TO 191; CAN YOU HELP OUT, TOO?

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- ▣ *"I can't overstate how great an impact these donations have on making the library relevant for students and in making the collection more valuable and worthy of protection in a time when library closures are afoot. Thank you so much to our devoted alumni, with special thanks to **Ruth Roberts**, whose ongoing generosity throughout this year has made a very substantial and lasting contribution to our collection and to the students of Uni."*

That's Uni librarian **Tascha Folsoi** '86 on the continuing flood of books into the Uni library, which has now reached 191. The nine named donors who have contributed so far (plus some who wish to remain anonymous) include:

**Jeff Deckman** '76

**Ivan Finkle** '50

**Barbara Wong Franklin** '68

**Carl Hagge** '53

**Judy Kleinberg** '65

**Ruth Albert Roberts** '64

**Roger Schrag** '83

**Judy Wolfenstein**

**Kevin Young** '75

It's easy to join them!

Folsoi – also a book donor – devised the donation process by using Amazon.com's "Wish List" function. Anyone can go to the list ([here](#)), purchase one or more books and they will be sent to Uni directly within two business days.

The "University Senior High Library" Wish List enjoys Amazon Prime status thanks to Folsoi, so that you (as the purchaser) **do not** have to be an Amazon Prime member to buy any of the books!

Folsoi asks for help if you buy a book: *"I think it would be better if we also asked people to email me their name and grad year along with items purchased, so I can email them back with the tax I.D. number and also remove the items from the list."* You can contact her at [tascha.folsoi@gmail.com](mailto:tascha.folsoi@gmail.com). Yes, your book purchase is a charitable donation!

All purchasers of books for the library are permanently recognized with a donor plate on the inside front cover of each donated book. Ready to help? Here's the link to the Wish List:

[https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2907HPM85SFOW/ref=cm\\_sw\\_su\\_w](https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2907HPM85SFOW/ref=cm_sw_su_w)

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## ON CAMPUS

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- ▣ Uni's indefatigable chief of health and environmental science programs, **Kerri Eich** is staging the second "Nourish Your Senses" seminar on campus on Saturday, June 3, with the public happily invited to attend. You'll hear from Eich and:

- **Sarah Greenfield**, owner of FEARLESS FIG
- **Mindy Schleger**, owner of FOOD FITTER
- **Don Smith**, soil expert for KISS THE GROUND

The series will be presented from 12:00 -3:00 p.m. in the Amphitheater on campus, with thanks for grant funding from HMC Architects. You can learn how understanding food better can enhance and enrich your life, but please sign up in advance [here](#).

- ▣ For those who would like to help keep Uni beautiful, a “Campus Gleaning” program will be held on Saturday and Sunday, June 3-4 from 8:30 to noon each day. Sign-in will be on campus in The Grove. Students get four hours of community service ... be sure to get a form for your records, too!

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

- *Boys/Baseball:*

Uni won four of its last five regular-season games to finish 11-12 and 7-5 in the Western League. The Wildcats play all of their games on the road due to a lack of a facility on or near the Uni campus, but were seeded 20th in the City’s Division I playoffs and won a play-in game against Granada Hills, 3-1, on May 11, but lost to San Pedro on May 16 to finish at 12-13 overall. Uni’s MaxPreps schedule and statistics are [here](#).

- *Girls/Softball:*

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**★ ALL-CITY DIVISION IV CHAMPIONS! ★**

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Coach **Jason Tillett** and his softballers finished their regular 6-10 overall and had a 4-8 mark in the Western League, with wins over Fairfax, Westchester (2) and LACES.

Uni was seeded no. 1 in the City’s Division IV playoff bracket, and won all four of its games to become City Champions!

The Wildcats clubbed, in order, Elizabeth HS, 11-1; Jefferson, 14-4; Triumph Charter, 15-0 and won the title over Rivera HS, 10-3, at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

For the season, Uni batted .301 as a team and was led by sophomore infielder **Belen Ferra** (.389), senior catcher **Jessica Sanchez** (.379), senior infielder **Joanna Amaya** (.362) and junior outfielder and pitcher **Jesenia Sanchez** (.340). Ferra led in home runs with three and Jessica Sanchez had 21 runs batted in for tops on the team. The top pitchers were junior **Liliana Garcia**, who had a 5-4 record and an 3.69 earned-run average in 11 appearances, and Jesenia Sanchez: 15 appearances and an excellent 3.14 ERA, but a 1-5 overall record.

Tillett was honored as Division IV *Coach of the Year*; Jessica Sanchez was *Player of the Year*; Jesenia Sanchez was honored as *Pitcher of the Year* and Amaya and freshman infielder **Abelina Nunez** were named to the All-City Division IV First Team.

For the detailed seasonal scores and statistics, click [here](#).

- *Track & Field:*

Uni had a strong showing in the City Finals at El Camino College on May 25. Varsity placers included:

Boys

400 m: 4. Brandon Cammack (Jr), 49.59  
4x200 m: 3. Uni, 1:35.28  
(Jaelon Crutcher, Bezu Abera, Nicholas Nathan, Noah Nathan)  
High Jump: 3. Kareem Miles (Jr), 5-10

Girls

100 m: 6. Olivia Adams (Fr), 12.64  
200 m: 6. Adams, 25.90  
4x100 m: 6. Uni, 50.49  
(Cach'e Cummings, Alexandria Parker, Olivia Adams, Rhani Khan)  
4x200 m: 1. **Uni, 1:49.69**  
**(Olivia Adams, Laijona Morris, Rhani Khan, E'aron Ervin)**  
4x400 m: 8. Uni, 4:13.58  
(Stephanie Cruz Beltran, Laijona Morris, Chedeya Brown, Rhani Khan)  
4x800 m: 8. Uni, 11:11.28  
(Juliana Islas, Christina Santos, Nancy Gomez, Natalie Santiago)  
High Jump: 5. Laijona Morris (Sr). 4-6  
Long Jump: 5. Cach'e Cummings (Jr), 16-1 3/4

Uni scored four [team points](#) in the Boys Varsity division, good for 18th place overall and seven points in the Girls Varsity division, placing in a tie for 16th. For this season's Uni results, click [here](#).

## 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:

- Sep. 23, 2017: **CLASS OF 1954 (Capris) 63-YEAR REUNION**  
At the Saticoy Golf Course Clubhouse, Ventura  
Information: **Erin Boomer** ([boomererin@gmail.com](mailto:boomererin@gmail.com))

- Oct. 07, 2017: **CLASS OF 1967: 50-YEAR REUNION**  
Hollywood & Highland Center, Los Angeles  
*Information: Judi Astrachan Doling ([judidoling@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judidoling@sbcglobal.net))*  
*Reservations and tickets:* Please contact The Reunion Committee at (661) 259-5999 or visit [www.reunioncommittee.com](http://www.reunioncommittee.com).
- Oct. 13, 2018: **CLASS OF 1968: 50-YEAR REUNION**  
Hollywood & Highland Center, Los Angeles  
*Information: Kathie Brown Marion ([marionmoses@me.com](mailto:marionmoses@me.com)).*  
*Reservations and tickets:* Please contact The Reunion Committee at (661) 259-5999 or visit [www.reunioncommittee.com](http://www.reunioncommittee.com).

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

▣ ***Class of 1957:***

**Patty (Kelly) Froehlich** ([rmgrandy4@hotmail.com](mailto:rmgrandy4@hotmail.com)) writes that the “Uni Hi Manhattan class of 1957 60th reunion in is the planning stage.”

Great! If you want to know more, contact Patty right away at [rmgrandy4@hotmail.com](mailto:rmgrandy4@hotmail.com).

▣ ***Class of 1987:***

A reunion committee is forming for a 30-year celebration later in 2017. Check out the class Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/129073165787/> or contact **Marvina (Stephens) Miller** at [marvina@centurycommercial.com](mailto:marvina@centurycommercial.com).

▣ ***Class of 1997:***

**Kymia Jones** ‘97 ([kymiaejones@gmail.com](mailto:kymiaejones@gmail.com)) has already asked “I’m wondering if there is a 20-year reunion planned for the Class of 1997?” Why not contact Kymia and get the party started!

▣ ***Class of 2007, are you holding a reunion in 2017?***

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](mailto:Connect@UHEF.org) right away!

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

***Class of 1987:***

- *On Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/129073165787/>

Class of 1981:

- On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/UNI1981Centurians/>

Class of 1977:

- On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/UniHigh77/>

Classes of 1966: Valcisians & Delphians

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

Classes 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](mailto:UniHi65@gmail.com)

Class of Winter 1961: New Yorkers

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

Class of Summer 1961: Islanders

- <http://www.unihi61.com>

And Uni's theater-arts program is also on Facebook:

- <https://www.facebook.com/unihightheater/>

## 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](mailto: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!](#)

### **UHEF SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE**

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- ▣ Did you know that the UHEF – thanks to your donations – supports these annual scholarships for Uni students:
- **Community Service Scholarship:** \$1,000 awarded to a graduating senior who has shown exceptional dedication to community service during their tenure at Uni.
  - **Jack Moskowitz Principal's Award:** Named for one of Uni's most outstanding principals (1984-93), a \$1,000 award to a graduating senior selected by Uni Principal **Eric Davidson** for exceptional achievement and service to the school.
  - **Sharon Mednick Scholarship:** Created in 2004 from a \$10,000 bequest left by Uni counselor Sharon Mednick, this annual \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a senior interested in a career in education.

In addition, two new scholarships are set to be inaugurated in the coming year with your donations:

- **Coach Richard M. Kampmann Scholarship Fund:** Named for Uni's late, legendary cross country and track & field coach, to be awarded by the Stimming Family in coordination with the UHEF.
- **Violetta Ponce Scholarship:** a new scholarship created by the University High School faculty and staff in memory of the late **Violetta (Ponce) Pacheco**, a Uni English teacher who lost her battle with cancer in May, 2016 at age 40. Contributions to this fund can be made to the UHEF or sent directly to University High School.

To contribute to any of these scholarships, simply go to the [Donate Now](#) section of the UHEF Web site, make your donation and enter the name of the fund you wish to support in the Comments section. Thank you for your generosity.

### **UNI ALUMNI NOTEBOOK**

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*Reunion information and updates for the  
Classes of 1954-1957-1967-1968-1987-1997:  
Check the [Reunions](#) section above!*

- ▣ **Joe Zukin** '43 ([jzjr@comcast.net](mailto:jzjr@comcast.net)) wrote to ask “*Is there a list of living alumni showing Class and current address? I'm curious to know if any of my classmates are in or near the San Francisco Bay Area.*”

Unfortunately, Joe, there is no listing of Uni alums as you desire. We're printing your inquiry here in hopes that one or more of your classmates will see it and contact you directly!

- ▣ **Richard Leib** '71 ([hotshock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hotshock@sbcglobal.net)) wrote in about a future reunion plan:

*“Since the graduating classes of '70 and '71 were effected by the old A , B annual class change. I would like to see the next reunion with both classes. In addition there would be a larger turn out with more alumni involved.”*

Good idea; perhaps it's time to start organizing a pre-reunion for both classes?

- ▣ **Bruce Rothschild** '59 ([broth41@gmail.com](mailto:broth41@gmail.com)) noted the passing last October of classmate **Peggy Sange – Peggy Gilbert** while at Uni – from the class of 1959.

Peggy worked as an educator for Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland for more than 35 years before retiring. She was an avid and prolific potter, and loved to play tennis. She is survived by her daughter Heather Mahland and her husband Russell of Larchmont, New York and their three children, and brother Robert Gilbert and his wife Karen of Laguna Beach. More [here](#).

Our condolences to all of the family and friends of our departed Warriors and Wildcats.

- ▣ The massive plaques saluting Coach **Dick Kampmann**, Uni sprinter (and double Olympic gold medalist) **Mel Patton** '43 and the school's first principal, **Angus Cavanaugh**, are mounted outside the north side of the South Gym. If you would like to see them, please note that Uni is a closed school and requires visitors to register. Please arrange your entry by calling Uni – (310) 914-3500 – and ask to schedule a date to come to see the plaques.

Three copies of the souvenir DVDs of the May 15th Kampmann-Patton Honors Luncheon remain available. The full speaking program is included, along with personal messages to Coach K and the Patton family and a short highlights [video](#) of the event. The DVDs are \$20 each and can be ordered by going to the [UHEF.org “Donate Now” page](#) and under the “**Comments**” section, please enter “Kampmann-Patton DVD.”

- ▣ 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!

## **SIXTH PERIOD BELL**

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▣ Thanks to everyone who made the “Shrek the Musical” show such a success for Uni’s Theatre Arts cast, crew and teachers this spring. Uni’s drama leader, **Ronnie Sperling** ‘76, is even more excited for the 2017-18 season, as he has announced that the shows will be:

- *Fall 2017:*            [The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee](#)
- *Spring 2018:*        [Grease!](#)

It’s believed that the Putnam County Spelling Bee show will be a Uni premiere, but Grease! will be produced for the third time in school history: first in the late 1990s and in 2009.

In fact, Sperling was himself in a *Grease!* national touring company in the early 1980s. What part did he play? Eugene Florczyk, renamed Eugene Felsnick in the 1978 Olivia Newton-John Travolta film.

“He was the nerd,” says Sperling. See you at Stivelman Theater for both shows this coming (academic) year!

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

*Send a note to [Connect@UHEF.org](mailto:Connect@UHEF.org) !*

*Be sure to give your full name and Uni graduating class!*

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