A Dream Materializes

by ANURAG CHIGURUPATI
Class of 2005

We’ve all been amazed by the grandeur of the new Kilroy Field House. But, as the saying goes, “You ain’t seen nothing yet.”

Recently, plans were agreed upon for the new Arts and Technology Wing. The construction is slated to begin in March of 2004, and will be completed in the fall of 2004, when the current freshmen are seniors. (Note that dates are still tentative.) The new wing will feature classrooms and areas for technology, visual arts, and music related classes. The construction, in addition to renovating 11,000 square feet of the current building, will add 35,000 square feet of new space. Featuring many novel architectural, aesthetic, and functional elements, it promises to dazzle as much as the Kilroy Field House. The plans for the wing are the culmination of a 3-year discussion among faculty and administrators, and are the most recent of many iterations. The wing will connect to the current building from the math wing, near the present computer lab. Entering the wing, the first room will be technology related, consisting of small computer labs, an enlarged video editing room, and an enlarged office for publications. Next are the visual arts rooms, including a new CAD lab and a new shop. At the end of the wing are an instrumental room, a choral room, and many small practice rooms available to students. Perhaps the most intriguing feature of the Arts and Technology Wing will be the Global Learning Center. As the wing was designed, a central problem arose. Given the rapid rate of change in today’s technology, it seemed difficult to be able to construct a building that wouldn’t be obsolete by the time it was completed. The solution was an increased amount of flexibility, embodied in the Global Learning Center, which will feature retractable walls to allow for numerous different configurations of classrooms. It will also include technical capabilities that will enable videoconferencing and distance learning. The wing, though it will be built later, is no less important than the Kilroy Field House. In fact, says Mr. Lagarde, it is likely to affect day-to-day activities much more. The new Arts and Technology Wing will finally provide an adequate space to match our phenomenal arts program. The current facilities, built around 1970, are all that constrain the arts at US, and with the new wing, they are bound to blossom.

Athletics over Arts: are the School’s Priorities Straight?

by Steve Chan
Class of 2003

When I first heard the school was planning to add a new athletic wing to our existing school, my first reaction was one of excitement for the opportunities that lay ahead for athletes, but also one of confusion for the complexities involved in such an endeavor. What was going to be included in this new athletic facility? Did we really need the extra money being spent towards athletics truly constrain the arts at US, and with the new arts and technology wing will finally provide an adequate space to match our phenomenal arts program. The current facilities, built around 1970, are all that constrain the arts at US, and with the new wing, they are bound to blossom.
Cultural Differences Help Strengthen Curriculum

by CHRISTOPHER ADLER
CLass of 2005

The future looks bright for University School, for there may be some changes taking place in the curriculum. US is considering establishing a more integrated curriculum, or cross-curriculum, in which students focus upon one main theme in all their classes, similar to the curriculum at the Lower School. Ms. Wielenberg’s recent travels to the United Arab Emirates and Japan will certainly give some great input in this matter to help strengthen the education at US.

Over this past summer, Ms. Wielenberg spent 3 weeks in Japan, participating in the Fulbright Memorial Teachers Program, sponsored by the Japanese government. The Fulbright Scholar Program, introduced after WWII, has helped over 6,000 foreign students into U.S. colleges. The Fulbright Memorial Teachers Program was established a token of appreciation for this. It is meant to help teachers from the United States learn more about the country of Japan, its education, culture, and government, to form a better understanding of the two nations. Japan is known for having an extremely impressive math program. As head of the math department at US, it was Ms. Wielenberg’s task to see how we could improve the math program here. She spent three days in different high schools and at a teacher’s education college. During this time she found subtle differences in how their curriculum is run. For example, the teachers in Japan prepare lessons in groups, forming a cross-curriculum, and the textbooks are much thinner in Japan. Ms. Wielenberg is looking into these ideas to change some of the curriculum and methods at US. She is learning especially towards changing the geometry program and investiga- tion into the idea of an integrated curriculum. Surprisingly, Japan is in the middle of a three-year education reform, and is pointing towards the direction the United States has taken with giving students free time to choose and conduct. In fact, they have stopped conducting school on Saturday mornings and have already begun giving their students free time at the elementary level. This sort of education reform is just beginning at the middle and high school level.

At the other end of Japan’s tradition and structure is the United Arab Emirates. The UAE is a young country, just over 30 years old. Ms. Wielenberg spent a year there, working as a math teacher at the UAE University, teaching freshman and sophomore women (Ms. Wielenberg found it difficult to teach people with a limited command of English, for she had to explain math in as few words as possible.). How the government treats these women with education is yet to be seen.

While the UAE did not offer as much insight into the curricul- lum for University School, Ms. Wielenberg learned a lot about herself as a teacher and will surely bring her experiences back with her to US.

The UAE University shares the city of Al Ain with The Al Jalih Tower

Where’s the Cream Filling?

by KEVIN HUANG
CLASS OF 2005

These days when I walk down to the athletic wing to grab a quick snack or drink I find I’m missing something. Sure, I have my carbonated juices on my right, and my salty snacks and synthetic sweets on my left, but I find I need something more whole- some. Yes, something more homemade, more “dessert-time” instead of “snack-time.” The other day, as I trudged back from yet another less-than-satisfying snack excursion, I met an upper-classman that took notice of my thirst. Displeased by relocating the Hostess machine to the locker room, outside of the athletic wing, he decided to give me a hand. He kindly informed me that the Hostess machine was long gone, saying, “That sucked. That pastry machine was awesome. It satisfied my hunger so I could more readily concentrate on my work.” Lamented senior Peter Chai. Senior Lu Juan Foust also expressed his discontent, reminiscing, “It feels empty inside without my chocolate chip muffin leaves.” However, alumni Will Henry disrupted his former classmates, responding, “It was an unfortu- nate but necessary consequence to counteract the injustices per- petrated by students who will- fully and callously abused the chocolate chip machine for their own selfish gains.”

However justified the administration might have been, the fact still remains that the Hostess machine is long gone, and the chances are slim that it will be coming back. How will future classes view this inci- dent? “Frankly, it makes me very angry that I would miss such delights,” testified fresh- man Erik Goldman. “Moreover, I can only sit and ponder what my life would have been like if the Hostess machine was still here.” I asked you all to consider this. “What would our lives have been like?”

At US News press time, the Hostess machine had re- turned, along with a new machine, outside of the locker room.
Michael Lawrence Davis, Jr. Remembered
Excerpts from Dr. Hawley’s Comments at Assembly, January 8, 2002

Michael’s sudden death is wrenching, unbearable for those who knew him, even for those who knew him only slightly. For many of you, this has been the first realization that someone close to you, someone so familiar and vital, could die. The fact of the matter is that healthy, living people are not supposed to feel all right about death. Death, especially of a promising youth, really is a shock, a wound, an insult. It was in recognition of this basic human response that Dylan Thomas wrote his unforgettable lines:

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Many of us have been raging against the dying of Michael’s light, even as we have tried to understand it. Michael’s death threatens to undo us. It undermines our confidence. We try to make sense of it, explain it, blame something, feel safer—but this is not easy. The best solution is probably not to try to construct a grand scheme in which Michael’s life and passing neatly fit. The better remedy, at least for now, is to remember, and to remember with all our hearts, how much we appreciated Michael, how distinctive he was, and how grateful we are for his presence among us. And if we can take an extra step, and remember how fragile and particular and valuable all of our living friends and loved ones are, so much the better.

University School News
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I will always love you

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To an Athlete Dying Young

The time you won your town the race
We chaired you through the market-place;
Man and boy stood cheering by,
And home we brought you shoulder-high.

Today, the road all runners come,
Shoulder-high we bring you home,
And set you at your threshold down,
Townsmen of a stiller town.

Smart lad, to slip betimes away
From fields where glory does not stay
And early, though the laurel grows
It withers quicker than the rose.

Eyes the shady night has shut,
Cannot see the record cut,
And silence sounds no worse than cheers
After earth has stopped the ears:

Now you will not swell the rout
Of lads that wore their honors out,
Runners whom renown outran
And the name died before the man.

So set, before its echoes fade,
The fleet foot on the sill of shade,
A hold to the low lintel up
The still-defended challenge-cup.

And round that early-laurelled head
Will flock to gaze the strengthless dead,
And find unwithered on its curls
The garland briefer than a girl's.

University School News

A.E. Housman
Basketball Team Battles Tough Foes

by BEN WALTER
Sports Editor
Class of 2003

It has been nothing short of a tough year for the US basket-
tball team so far this season as they have hit the ruthless part
of their schedule, and it is not get-
ing any easier. With games against Hoban, VA, St. Young-
ston Ursuline, and St. Vincent-
St. Mary’s in the rear view, the
team has several key match-ups
in the not too distant future. US
will face four teams ranked among
the city’s top twenty including
number seventeen Rhodes, num-
ber eleven Brush, number seven
Cleveland Central Catholic, and
number three St. Edward.

Even though the team has
struggled of late, there is no panic
in this team as evidenced by Se-
nior floor general Marques
Torbert. “Although we have been
on a slide, I feel our team is on
the brink of great success heading
into the season’s later stages. We
have learned a lot throughout the
season and that will only be to our
benefit as we head into district play.”

In a tough loss to Ursuline, 85-75, Co-Captain Logan White
poured in 30 points, two points
below his season high point total
season. White, who can do it all,
is averaging nearly twenty points
per game for the Preppers this season.
White flashed his moves with
several crossovers and tough
jumps shots that left Ursuline
defenders grabbing their ankles.
Torbert, who recorded a season
high of 18 points, played with
great consistency even with a
painful tailbone injury. Holding
leads of — —, — —, US looked
lose as though they would be on the win-
making end of a tough battle. But
when the Ursuline Fighting Irish
set up their full court pressure,
US suffocated, and turnovers
gave the team an advantage.

US suffocated, and turnovers
set up their full court pressure,
when the Ursuline Fighting Irish
ning end of a tough battle. But
when the Ursuline Fighting Irish
set up their full court pressure,
US suffocated, and turnovers
gave the team an advantage.

The team has been victorious
this season. With a 4-0 record
in dual meets, they won the
Westlake duals, an invitation with
eight teams. Sophomore Chris
Tripp in the 145 weight class was
named the most excellent wrestler
in that tournament. Along with
Chris, winners in the champi-

tonship round included Brian Cost,
sophomore Dan Cohen, Junior
John Konisiewicz, Junior Tyler
Wehman, Adam Stulberg, who has
been on varsity for four years.

Next the team moved on
to the Pittsburgh Shady Side
Holiday Cup in Pennsylvania.
The team was able to average its ear-
lier loss to Buffalo St. Francis
by simply out skating and out
muscling the host team. 3-1.
The Prepper then suffered a de-
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The feelings of pain and loss that ripple through our community in such a time are as real and poignant as feelings can get. For many of us, the loss of Michael Davis is the first real experience of death we have had. How does one contend with such powerful feelings and emotions? The journey of healing that lies before us is certainly not an easy one. The realization that it could have been any one of us is almost too hard to bear.

It seems trite then, or even insensitive to speak of films, music, and “entertainment” during these times of mourning and healing. Indeed, the five films this month that are the top-grossers at the box office are pointless, but affected by what we see. Through such mediums as film and literature, we have the ability to be moved by and further understand not only the pain of death, but also the joys of life.

Seeing artistic expression is part of what makes us who we are, not only as a culture and a society, but also as human beings. Since the earliest drawings scratched into cave walls in France, people have been putting what is inside of them into forms and mediums that can be witnessed by others. The novelist Joyce Carey said: “[Art is] the means… by which we can express ourselves in forms of meaning and communicate these meanings to others. It is the only means by which we can communicate both the fact and the feeling about the fact, which is, in our lives, always the most important thing.”

When we experience the loss of a friend like Michael, nothing can truly console us or stop us from feeling pain, and art is no different. What art can do, however, is let us identify with and feel part of a bigger picture. To know that what we are feeling now is not something that is isolated and unknown can perhaps help us find a sense of calm. When faced with an incident that can otherwise seem to be devoid of any sort of purpose, art can help find a sense of meaning, or even just understanding.

In the Entertainment section of the US News, we usually try to recommend current films that might be interesting to watch, or relevant to our lives. At this time, however, it seems especially important to mention some films that might help us find clarity, and even connect us to feelings inside of us that we didn’t know were there. Two films made within the last couple of years, Abbas Kiarostami’s The Wind Will Carry Us and Bruno Dumont’s L’Humanité offer powerful and poignant insights into how people experience, find meaning in, and ultimately gain some sort of understanding of life and death within communities. We hope that through art, music, discussion and reflection, this event will not just be a time of sadness, but will be a time of learning as well.