



Tech Fair overtakes campus

by *Garrett Caldwell*

On the chilly 6th of November, over 200 students from schools in the region visited UCA to check out our stellar technology classes at the biennial Tech Fair.

Anyone walking the campus between 9:45 and 3:30 would have seen groups of visitors walking around, looking for the tech building, the gym . . . or lunch.

Throughout the day, these students visited nine programs overall, including robotics, embroidery and aviation. They traveled between the gym, the arts building, and the tech building, stopping by the girls' dorm chapel for lunch.

"The kids are awesome," commented sophomore Jonathan Hays, who helped teach them in the welding shop. Indeed, they seemed to be having a great time everywhere. Some could be observed climbing trees or running around the gym.

Mr. Brophy, UCA technology teacher, also counted the day a success, saying, with great understatement, "It was pretty good."



Melinda Novak accompanies Logan Villarreal during the annual Amateur Hour



Trevor Carstens & Alexi Andregg



Sacha Kravig

Boys' Club Amateur Hour *An Evening in Paris*

winners:

- Grand Prize: Michael Woodruff
- Audience Choice: The Whistling Quintet
- Vocal: Sacha Kravig
- Piano: Trevor Carstens & Alexi Andregg
- Instrumental: Michael Woodruff
- Novelty: The Whistling Quintet



Michael Woodruff



The Whistling Quintet

The Whistling Quintet were Alex Wickward, Sean Kirk, Jordan Harder, Zach Gilbert, and Noah Wallace



photo by Jemi Morgan

Janae Rose, Hillary Madden, Michelle Michaels and Kara Taylor

Forensic science

by Jemi Morgan

For the students in Forensic Science, class is always a new adventure. From skeletons to blood analysis, no one gets bored. Perhaps it's the hands-on or the interaction with other students that makes this class so much fun.

Taught by Gayle Haeger, Forensic Science is for people who are very interested in crime investigations . . . or for those who haven't really heard much about it. The class draws a lot of different sciences together to build evidence for a trial.

At the beginning of the school year, Mrs. Haeger presented an imitative crime investigation, where the students had to analyze every part of the scene and report what they thought had happened. From there, the class began to realize how much evidence they actually needed to prove what really took place. This led to fingerprinting, blood analysis, and skeleton study to find a victim's race, height, and gender.

An exciting thing about Forensic Science class is that people are using such science every day in real life. The class acts as an introduction to a wide field of study.

The opportunity of a lifetime

by Scott Guthrie

Last school year was just beginning when the UCA Choralliers received exciting news from Mr. Anderson: they had been invited to sing with others at Carnegie Hall in New York City. There was, of course, a great deal of excitement, and throughout the school year fundraisers were held, announcements were distributed, and parents were notified.

School ended, and practices were held until the parts were learned. Then, the group flew to New York where the week was filled with fun, friends and good times.

It was a life-changing experience, one that probably won't be repeated in the near future.

Girls' Club prepares for big day

by Rosemary Welser

The day, December 2, is almost here. Stress levels rise, lists get longer, and deadlines draw alarmingly near. The day of the banquet is approaching and for the Girls' Club, its arrival means much more than just an evening of fun.

The eight girls that form the UCA Girls' Club are Mikki Montgomery, Ashley Wilkinson, Heather Dixon, Tiffani Caldwell, Jayci Morgan, Hanna Smith, Michelle Michaels and Jazmin Romero.

To plan for the banquet, they meet and do a lot of brainstorming for ideas. Much planning and preparation is necessary for a good banquet. Everything is planned by Girls' Club: the theme has to be picked, decorations found, entertainment decided on, and food prepared. The girls meet every Tuesday evening during study hall to plan. Different jobs are delegated among the girls; then, the next week they meet again to discuss and assign new duties.

After much discussion, the theme picked for the first banquet this year is the 1950s. The banquet itself must be on-campus although the entertainment part doesn't have to be. But because of transportation difficulties, the entire evening is planned to be on campus.

Mikki Montgomery says that of the biggest challenges they face in planning the banquet is entertainment. Finding something that lasts long enough and that everyone will enjoy is hard to do, agrees Ashley Wilkinson.

On banquet day, the Girls' Club does most of the setting up, and they have the option of working through the banquet, serving or preparing food, if they choose not to attend. A lot of help is offered by students' parents who volunteer their time to help out at the banquet.

Once the evening is over, and the last of the cleaning up done, Girls' Club can give a big sigh of relief, but not for long: there are more activities to be planned for the rest of the year!

New excuse for students

by *Melinda Novak*

Mr. Janke stands in front of his 7:15 US History class, trying to get their attention. "Okay students, today we have our test over chapter three." A loud groan sweeps through the classroom and many heads are buried in their books, cramming before the test.

"Are you going to read the news, Mr. Janke?" a student volunteers, hoping to get some more study time.

"Well, actually," Mr. Janke stops for a second and chuckles, "I couldn't print the news because there is a snake in the printer."

The students, usually half asleep, are now wide awake and laughing. This was the best excuse they had heard in a long time.

"No, really. The printer showed that the paper was stuck, so I pulled out the paper and then looked inside by the ink cartridges. I stood up, startled, and then looked again. There was a snake in the printer," Mr. Janke explained.

After the chuckles subside, Mr. Janke passes out the tests. The room falls dead silent as brains smoke from all the hard thinking. As soon as the class is done, Mr. Janke begins talking about the next lesson. All of a sudden, he looks out the small window in the door.

"Hey! There he is!" he exclaims.

The students have puzzled expressions on their faces as four people walk into the room. They are covered in ink and one of them holds a snake.

"Mr. Janke, we got your snake out of the printer! they proclaim.

"Thank-you very much," Mr. Janke replies as he goes over to inspect the snake, taking care not to touch its ink-covered body.

As the small group leaves the room, Mr. Janke says with a chuckle, "It is really too bad that I got the tests printed before that snake got into the printer."

The class, once again, bursts out laughing. What a great way to start the day.

Picture day

by *Alec North*

On October 10, 2007, we experienced a day most people dread. This day is so terrifying that people dress up in their very best and spend all morning working on their hair. This day is, of course, Picture Day. Now, there are some people out there who actually enjoy posing for a picture; these are the lucky people who are photogenic. Their pictures will stick out as the good ones in the yearbook.

Picture Day went fairly uneventfully. Only a few significant world-changing events occurred. In between classes, students waited in line to get their mug shots.

The ritual is fairly quick. They rush you in, sit you down, say a cheesy line, and snap the picture while you're still trying to figure out if what they said was a joke or an instruction. Your puzzled face will appear in the yearbook, and people will point and laugh at it for the rest of your life.

Picture Day is a day to fear and a day to treasure. You'll be able to look back at your life by checking your old yearbooks.

HOPE Taskforce

November 16



One group went to help at a Habitat for Humanity project. Cassie Cantrell, Alexi Andregg, Eduardo Bautista, Joe Tua, and Ryan Steingas impress with their construction skills.

Ancestor weekend

by *Michael Woodruff*

For a few days each year, a huge group of people flood the UCA campus. Upon seeing the cafeteria boiling over with humanity, you might have thought, "Wow, they look a little old to be in my class. They must be seniors." But, no, think again. It's Parent Weekend!

Many students are thrilled to have their parents come and spend time with them, some from great distances and others from only a few miles away. Friday afternoon they begin to trickle in, most arriving in time for Friday evening vespers. The church is packed, ready to witness spectacular performances by Choraliers, Octet, Saxophone Quartet, Brass Quintet, and other musical groups.

On Sabbath morning, students from all classes unite in the worship service, taking part in offering, scripture, prayer, or music. Afterwards, everyone has a fantastic social time as they tank up in the café, preparing to embark on different Sabbath-afternoon activities. But everyone comes back together for Sundown Med and a thrilling Varsity football game. (Nobody needs to know the score.)

Sunday dawns, a gorgeous day! With the sun shining brightly and the autumn trees standing tall against a spotless blue sky, it's a perfect day for disc golf and football! A huge football tournament lasts most of the day while the Lions try their skill against teams from Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, and Walla Walla. In between things, a few guys can't help but fool around jumping bikes on the track behind the ballfield. What fun!

The weekend comes to an end, and parents reluctantly head back out on the highway home. But the campus still feels warm with the happy memories.



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY **ECHOES**

Is a regular student publication
of Upper Columbia Academy

3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road Spangle, Washington 99031



This month's contributors included:

Garrett Caldwell, Jemi Morgan, Rosemary Welser,
Scott Guthrie, Melinda Novak, Alec North,
Michael Woodruff, Abby Hochhalter, Mindy Schreven,
Tess Lubke, Esther Wolfkill, Sacha Kravig,
Tervor Carstens, Jeremy Purviance, Logan Villarreal,
Vanessa Eyer, Logan Carter, and Stephen Lacey, sponsor

Arms of love

by *Abby Hochhalter*

Squashed together in a labyrinth of entryways, we excitedly searched for our way in to the Casting Crowns concert, my first concert ever. I was pulsing with eagerness to see one of my favorite bands perform.

Finally, with my friends, I was able to locate the correct seats, which, of course, were on the opposite end of the building from where we had been. We blazed our way to the nosebleed section of the Spokane Arena, fearing the view would be horrible, but we were seated right across from the stage, and the show turned out to be amazing.

We were just about ready for the concert to begin when a young girl, who looked to be around six or seven, was attempting to begin the arduous task of hopping all the way with her broken leg to her seat at the top of the balcony. Suddenly, out of the audience, stood a man. He wasn't very large, but stepped toward the girl, handed her mother her crutches, and without saying a word swung the girl into his arms and proceeded to carry her to the top.

This moment of unexpected kindness keeps repeating in my mind. We rarely have the privilege to witness such acts in this world of selfishness. But it is those rare instances of love for a stranger that speak more for the glory of God than anything else.

I know what I witnessed that evening was heaven-sent.

The difference at UCA

by *Mindy Schreven*

As people walk around UCA's campus, they may notice something. Not what the temperature is or how hard the wind is blowing, but something about the students and staff. These people walk around with smiles decorating their faces. There is a happiness floating through the air, different than anywhere else.

What makes UCA different from other boarding academies and high schools? Some may say it is because we are stranded in wheat fields stretching as far as the eye can see. Others may say it is because we have a marvelous music program, a gymnastics team, varsity sports teams and an out-standing technology program. While all of these factors are true, there is a bigger reason. UCA has an incredible student body and teaching staff. They don't just co-exist with each other; they are unified as a school. They strive for one goal: to serve God. With this common focus an unbreakable bond is formed, friendships are solidified, and joy of living is evident.

Sunday school

by Tess Lubke

Several bodies walk slowly along the sidewalks from the dorms. Their eyes are half closed, their sweat-shirt hoods cover their early morning hairstyles, and their shoes clunk lazily on the pavement because their legs just don't work the way they should on a day like today. A few other bodies come from the parking lot on front campus with remarks such as, "I could have slept in today, too!" These bodies belong to UCA students on special Sundays that are often referred to as "Sunday School" days.

Sunday School happens every weekend before most homeleaves. There are a few students who are relatively happy all the time and don't mind waking up early on Sunday mornings and going to class. But most students have a dislike for this special occasion although it is necessary so students can go on homeleaves to get a break from the dorm and campus and have time to visit family and friends.

So, the next time those students wake up on a Sunday morning for Sunday School, they might think that they should be sleeping. But there will be at least one bright thinker who exclaims with a positive attitude, "Hey! There's a homeleave coming soon!"

Sunday School isn't so bad after all.

Penguins perform in Brewster

by Esther Wolfkill

Three lines of black and white stood on the stage in the Brewster Church for a Choraliers concert on November 3.

Leaving UCA around noon on November 2, the Choraliers traveled to Omak, performed for vespers and rested there for the night. The next morning, they migrated to Brewster to perform for church.

Lined up and dressed in black and white, they awaited the order to return to the audience after singing, but Mr. Anderson had something else in mind. As the children's story began, he simply motioned for the students to sit where the children would be sitting.

The children, frightened by the idea of sitting by a large group of large people in formal dress, had to be coaxed on stage to sit with the "penguins" during the children's story.

But penguins turned into climbing posts and playmates as the day progressed, and soon the children had lost their reserve, discovering that sometimes it just might be fun to play tag with a penguin. When it was time to return, Choraliers climbed into their bus and settled down to remember the people met, and to contemplate those yet to be met in the future.

Just friends

by Sacha Kravig

"Wasn't he just dating what's-her-name? They only broke up two days ago!" How many times have you heard this comment? How many times have you wondered the same thing? Are you part of the few and the proud who can call themselves singles in this school? Maybe you're single and you wish you weren't. I mean, that *one kid* who plays that one position on the team . . . yeah, he's pretty good-looking. Isn't he? And *she* is always the top in gymnastics. All of the guys like her . . .

I've heard my entire life that high school was as much about relationships as it was about schoolwork. I never thought that was true until I moved to UCA. At the beginning of the year, the hunt began. Boys, I mean, young men, roamed the campus and traveled dangerously close to the girls' dorm, trying to get a glimpse of that one junior girl they saw during registration. And, if she was taken, there was always the freshman who gave "the look" at Class Night. Right?

Girls do it too. Yeah, you should be studying, but football practice is so much more fun with all of the hot, muscled guys running around the field pulling flags. Who knows? Maybe you'll have to run and get *him* water . . . wouldn't that be romantic?

The funny thing is, we all know that by next spring, if not this winter, all of those couples we see forming will be totally mixed up and rearranged. Now basketball season has come around, your football player isn't enough and you'll find some new guy in a Lions jersey who can dunk. And guys, the top in gymnastics who was so hot will fall in love and you'll have to stick with the girl who sings in Choraliers. But look on the bright side: at least she doesn't run around in spandex and get held up by other guys for a period a day . . .

So it's a typical school year again. I guess it's time to make our bets and get out our binoculars to watch the famous UCA couples. We could make it a school sport. I think that I could already pick out the MVPs for this year . . . So, my all-consuming question this year is this: What ever happened to being friends?



Michael Woodruff, Logan Villarreal, and Trevor Carstens in the bus without their penguin suits.

Air time

by *Jeremy Purviance*

Sitting on the edge of your seat, palms sweating intensely, you take a deep breath and . . . whoosh! The feeling of being weightless surrounds you like a helmet. Not quite sure what this whole weightless thing means? The answer is simple: air time on the recently redone and very practically modified BMX/Mountain Bike track behind the football fields. Until the first week of October the track had been slightly forgotten—well, maybe not slightly. Let's say completely forgotten.

Overrun with tall grass and thistles, the track seemed to beg for a hair cut and a little TLC. Enter Bryston Roberson, Charlie Wickward, Dominic Bovey, Isaac Houston, Braeden Shipowick and Jeremy Purviance. Thanks to a burned out shovel, some elbow grease and a lot of hours of work, the track was brought back to life, boasting a large selection of jumps including table tops, step ups, drop ins and gaps.

The track has been a popular hang out for a group of guys who enjoy a little bit of adventure and challenge in their daily work and school routines. The air has been filled with shouts of laughter, shrieks of pain, and amusing comments aimed to make you feel like an idiot because of your accidental face plant that was caused by a randomly hit golf ball. All in all, the track has been a great way to exercise, blow off a little steam, or, maybe, to impress the local ladies' dorm residents.

YOU WON'T
WANT TO MISS
THIS YEAR'S
CHRISTMAS
CONCERTS ON
DECEMBER
14 & 15!



photo by Michael Woodruff

Braeden Shipowick gets a little air time behind the football fields

Choral clinic

by *Logan Villarreal*

October 6th, the UCA Academy church was host to a choral concert featuring the UCA Choraliers and the Mt. Ellis Dynamics. Directed by the esteemed Stephen Zork, these combined groups rehearsed nearly eight hours to prepare an hour-long concert. Pieces in both Latin and English were sung as well as a work solely based on the Hebrew word *alleluia*, creatively titled, "Alleluia."

Zork is the principal choral director at Andrews University. He along with Dr. Kraig Scott, the organist at Walla Walla University, came to head the clinic without any cost for UCA. Not only is Zork a fabulous tenor, he is also a vastly talented conductor. "Mr. Zork is the best choral director I know of," said Curtis Anderson, UCA choral department head.

Zork worked on far more than just the melody and rhythm of a piece. "Look beyond the notes!" he would repeatedly exclaim. Choraliers and Dynamics members learned about open throats, jaw relaxation, and proper breath support referred to enthusiastically by Zork as "the posture of inspiration." He explained advanced vocal techniques such as *portamento* and *falsetto* as well as heavily emphasized the interpretation of text musically and poetically.

It was a crash course in music, but it paid off. "I had always known something wasn't right with my singers. I knew what it was but not how to fix it," Anderson said. "Mr. Zork's techniques gave me the tools to fix it." He went on to say that Zork gave his whole group that 'college choir' sound.

It was tough. After singing for two hours without a break during rehearsal, patience was often stretched thin. Zork was hard on every singer and demanded nothing less than perfection from the entire choir. "I directed everyone there like I would a college choir," he later said. But all the grueling practice eventually paid off as the entire choir formed a cohesive group and learned vocal techniques. Even Anderson discovered many new things. "I learned as much as you guys," he later acknowledged.

It doesn't come much better than that.



photo by Michael Woodruff

Go team go!

by Vanessa Eyer

Bump, Set, Spike! This is what the Girls Varsity Volleyball team accomplished on their game against House of the Lord. Since the beginning of the school year, our Lady Lions have been practicing to win. They were finally able to get that chance on their third game of the season. With the team on its way to win two out of three games, the intensity in the gym was radiating from both the teammates and the spectators. Watching these girls work as a team was remarkable. When the ball came to their side of the net, what they had worked for and practiced as a team clicked.

Coaches Willis and Mr. & Mrs. Morgan have donated lots of time and energy in order to teach these girls the art of playing volleyball. With their help, the girls have shown excitement and determination. The coaches have worked with them almost every Tuesday and Thursday, practicing bumping, serving, and most important, spiking. Without the coaches' direction, the team would not have been able to excel to the point of winning.

Although the winning evening was followed by a loss to Faith Baptist, the girls' volleyball teams have come together not only as individual teams, but as friends. They encourage each other to strive to do their best even when they make mistakes. Playing volleyball is a sport that requires team effort and they definitely show it. As they looked forward to the last game of the season, the friendship, spirit and the hard work continued.

Lions have winning season

by Logan Carter

The glaring white lights contrast harshly with the wide expanse of black sky. The thunder of cleats on the hard-packed turf grips the attention of every onlooker. The wild cheers erupting from the bleachers are deafening. This is a Lion's football game.

Several days into the new school year, a swarm of aspiring athletes flooded UCA's football field. The reason: varsity tryouts! As the sun shot over the horizon, young men of varying ages and grades continued to fight through flag pulling, blocking, receiving, and rushing drills. Twenty-eight of these eager students emerged as this year's UCA Lions.

In the opening game, the new recruits proved they were a force to be reckoned with as the Lions went on to win 55-12! With practices every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, the team continued to strengthen physically and mentally.

Although the next three games were lost to both CDA and Walla Walla, the annual Wheatfield Rumble Tournament provided the perfect opportunity for the Lions to come roaring back. Despite windy conditions, the sky was a UCA blue as four teams gathered to let the games commence. October 14 was an action-packed day, with UCA winning two games, one by only two points!

As the Lions looked to improve their 3-4 record, Alex Wickward, the team's offensive captain explained, "The guys just need to keep up their confidence." Alec North, a Lions cornerback, readily agreed, exclaiming, "We have an amazing team! We have all the talent, we just need to believe we can win!"

And the team did get more wins, ending the season with more wins than losses. After the Fall Classic tournament on November 11, the Lions' improved their record to 7-6.

Although football is seen as an intense sport, "just plain fun" would be the better description. Not to mention that playing football brings very different guys together as a team. Football season is over, but with basketball just beginning, there is only one thing to say, GO LIONS!

Non-Profit
Org
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 2
Spangle, WA

UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY

3025 E Spangle-Waverly Road
Spangle, WA 99031



CLASS OFFICERS

	SENIORS	JUNIORS	SOPHOMORES	FRESHMEN
President:	Elliot LaPlante	Michael Woodruff	Chloe Johnson	Charlie Wickward
Vice-president:	Ross Vyhmeister	Zach Gilbert	Derek Riffel	Geoff Hughes
Chaplain:	Hillary Madden	Tess Lubke	Marinna Kravig	Jenna Carter
Secretary:	Mindy Schreven	Courtney Smith	Amanda Johnson	Maxine Chavez
Treasurer:	Rainey Davis	Cassie Cantrell	Doug Jahn	River Davis
Sgt-at-Arms:	Brady Weijohn	Ryan Steingas	Sidney Krall	Rachel Jorgensen
Historian:	Lucas Anderson	Logan Villarreal		
Chorister:	Jon Gaskill	Kristin Stratte	Daniel Jenks	
Pianist:	Kaitlynn Fitch	Melinda Novak	Sara Rose	
Girls' Sports:	Lizzy Kim	Janae Rose	Mellisa Still	Lianne Pak
Boys' Sports:	Jose Alcala	Alex Wickward	Manuel Alcala	Seth White
Musician:				Arlene Bautisa